Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-105 *31 May 1990*

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Schedule of 20th OAS General Assembly Outlined

PY3005235190 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 30 May 90 p 4

[Text] The preparatory commission of the 20th OAS General Assembly, which is scheduled to convene in our capital from 4 to 8 June, has released the schedule of sessions to be held during the Assembly.

Herewith the schedule:

Monday, 4 June

A preparatory session of the general commission will be held at 0830 to consider the order of the day. The inaugural session of the Assembly will be held at 1000. There will also be two plenary sessions: The first at 0900 to elect the president of the Assembly, and the second at 1100 for the speeches to be delivered by presidents of member countries attending the assembly.

A third plenary session will be held in the afternoon, during which there will be more speeches by presidents of member countries.

Tuesday, 5 June

Deliberations will begin at 0900 with sessions of the four assembly committees: The committee on legal and political matters; the committee on socioeconomic matters; the committee on educational, scientific, and cultural matters; and the committee on administrative and budget matters. These committees will elect and install their respective officials. The first two committees will resume their activities 30 minutes later. The fourth plenary session of the General Assembly will be held at 0930.

Beginning at 1500 in the afternoon, there will be a meeting of the accreditation committee, the fifth plenary session; and meetings of the second and third committees.

Wednesday, 6 June

The sixth plenary session will be held at 0900 to hear reports from the accreditation committee and general discussions. The committees on legal and administrative matters will meet at the same time. These committees will resume their deliberations at 1500. The second session of the general commission of the assembly will also meet at 1500.

Thursday, 7 June

The third session of the general commission, and the fifth session of the committee on legal matters, will begin at 0900. The seventh plenary session will be held at 1130 to hear reports.

The fourth session of the general commission will begin at 1500, and the eighth plenary session will begin at 1700.

Friday, 8 June

The following sessions will be held during the last day of the 20th OAS General Assembly: At 0900, the general commission; at 1700, the ninth plenary session; and, finally, the closing session will be held at 1800.

Uruguay Lodges Formal Protest

PY2805194490 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] The Uruguayan Government lodged a formal protest with the Paraguayan Government over the fact that President Luis Alberto Lacalle has been displaced from the first spot on the list of speakers at the upcoming OAS assembly.

Official spokesmen said that, despite this fact, President Lacalle, Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell, and a small entourage will still travel to Asuncion on 3 June.

The sources added that the decision to replace President Lacalle with his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Menem, surprised Uruguayan authorities.

Banana Producers Criticize U.S. Marketing Firms

PA3005025790 Panama ACAN in Spanish 2321 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Bambito, Panama, 18 May (ACAN-EFE)—Independent banana producers from Colombia, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Venezuela today criticized the U.S. marketing companies that operate in the region and asked their governments to strengthen their national policies regarding bananas.

Approximately 50 independent producers who met in the Panamanian town of Bambito, near the Costa Rican border, termed the purchase contracts with the U.S. multinationals as "illegal, unitaleral, and damaging to the national producers' interests."

A bulletin that reported on the proceedings of the meeting points out that among the producers, the idea of creating a Central American and Panamanian marketing company arose to search for new banana buyers and attempt to sell the fruit without the intervention of U.S. companies.

The independent producers—who do not work directly with the large companies that control the world fruit market—agreed that only with strong unions and with the support of their governments "could positive results be obtained in the contracts that the producers sign with the multinationals."

The producers also complained about the lack of adequate policies and legislation regarding banana production and marketing in Latin American countries.

Luis Riasco, a Colombian producer from Santa Marta Department, said that there are producers who have been forced "to sign blank contracts" with the multinationals.

A Honduran producer, Jose Maria Ochoa, said that the situation in his country "is difficult" because of the lack of a national policy and pressure from the multinationals through the imposition of illegal contracts.

According to Ochoa, the Honduran Government "depends on the U.S. multinational companies because our country does not have banana-related policies or legislation."

Union of Banana Exporting Countries (UPEB) General Manager, Guatemalan Haroldo Rojas, said to the regional producers that he was "surprised by the way the Honduran Government favors the multinationals' interests to the detriment of producers" in that nation.

Guillermo Enriquez Gallo, a Colombian, referring to the contracts, said that they were "a typical problem of colonialism" and that the solution was for the producers and governments to declare "war" on the multinationals.

Moises Soto from Costa Rica stated that the purchase contracts have barely changed since 1984 and added that the Central American producer "cannot be in the hand of the multinational companies, because he will starve."

Panamanian Ricardo Pinson said that the large marketing companies "abuse economic power to impose on these nations' producers 'ancient' relations."

Joint Press Agency Editing Central Created

PY2605202990 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 May 90 p 4

[Text] A central that will edit the reports released by state-run news agencies of some Latin American and Caribbean countries might begin operating on 9 July 1990 in Caracas. This central will be like an "embryo of a Latin American news agency."

A meeting of the Association of National Information Systems (ASIN) held in Caracas, which was attended by representatives of several countries of the region, decided to meet again on 9 July for the purpose of beginning to edit the reports beamed to 28 countries.

The meeting was attended by Venezuelan Information Minister Pastor Heydra [as published] who is also the president of ASIN; TELAM President Hugo Heguy, who is the vice president of ASIN; ASIN Secretary Daniel Barrios (Uruguay); Victor Carriba (Cuba); Jamaica's "Jamaica Press" news agency director Keneth Chaplin; and Honduras Presidential Information Director Martin Biada Urmaneta.

Barrios explained that the objective of the meeting of the ASIN council, which was founded in 1979 and is comprised of representatives of 28 Latin American and Caribbean Governments, will be to adjust the details of the installation in Caracas of the editing central, which will be run by Argentine, Cuban, Caribbean, Peruvian, Colombian, Venezuelan, and Mexican officials and journalists.

Barrios said that one of the main objectives of the organization is "to improve the ASIN network technology," adding that another objective is to "qualitatively enrich" the services rendered by each state news agency.

Radio Association Ends 20th Assembly in Chile

PY2805142090 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 May 90

[Excerpt] The Inter-American Radio Broadcasting Association, AIR, emphasized the imporant role played by the radio in the world today, noting that it is the means of communication that has most influenced current sociopolitical changes.

The 20th AIR Assembly, held in Santiago under the chairmanship of Chilean Oscar Pizarro and attended by more than 12 delegations of member countries, has concluded.

Among some of its conclusions, the AIR voiced its solidarity with those media sectors whose freedom of expression is jeopardized by terrorism, be it by drug traffickers or by political currents that seek to impose their will through violence and intimidation. During the meeting it was also agreed to prohibit the reproduction of radio or television programs without the approval of their producers, to praise the opening of private television channels in Chile, and to condemn the clandestine use of radio frenquencies in Argentina. [passage omitted]

Official Communique Protests Alleged Kidnappings

PA3005155890 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1319 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] The kidnapping of Mexican Doctor Humberto Alvarez Machain inside Mexican territory, and his handing over to DEA agents at the El Paso, Texas airport some days ago is a violation of the most basic international laws, a communique issued by the Attorney General's Office states.

The communique, which appears in Bulletin No. 377-90 dated 29 May, says that such incidents could degenerate into the indiscriminate hunting down of Mexicans who may be sought by the U.S. judicial system for any number of reasons.

The bulletin says that the Attorney General's Office bases this concern on the 28 May arrests of three bounty hunters whose job was to kidnap drug traffickers and take them to the United States in exchange for $15,000. The arrests took place when judicial policemen from Baja California State prevented two Mexican citizens from being kidnapped and taken to the San Ysidro, California border line. Those arrested are Adan Valencia Morales, a Mexican living in the United States, as well as Jesus Carvajal Rebollo and Francisco Meras Cortes. When questioned, they confessed they had been contracted by the Bail Bond Company located in Whittier, California, which is apparently linked to the DEA.

The three persons arrested in the El Rio neighborhood close to the border were about to kidnap Jose Chegaray and his son, who goes by the same name. They also had with them a list of 10 alleged drug traffickers who, after being kidnapped, were to have been taken to San Ysidro, California in exchange for $15,000 each.

U.S. Antidrug Program Called Attack on Hispanics

PA2905034290 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 18 May 90 p 3

[Editorial: "McCarthyism Against Drug Trafficking"]

[Text] If there ever was an intention of turning the United States into the paradise of individual freedoms, events have once again confirmed that authoritarianism and state control over society, despite the very guarantees stated in the U.S. Constitution, are still in effect when it comes to situations the U.S. Government considers justified.

The antidrug-trafficking proposals presented on 17 May by President George Bush imply the violation of a number of U.S. and foreign laws, and bear marks of racism and xenophobia that are not new in some parts of the northern country.

If, during the period following World War I, and until that odd period of radical McCarthyism during the fifties, the big enemy was communism, the declared enemy is now drug trafficking.

Of course, it is understandable that any nation that has a drug consumption problem (and therefore a trafficking problem) of the magnitude of the United States' must adopt extraordinary measures to combat the problem; the contradiction lies in attempting to attack the problem in an illogical manner: Instead of adopting measures that will diminish the demand for drugs, the United States is attacking the supply channels. Both aspects are undoubtedly related, but there can be no doubt that if there is a constant demand for any product, supplies will always be available. The only thing that will change is the cost, which will increase proportionately with the increase of demand over supply.

From this standpoint we can see why, during Ronald Reagan's government and during the time George Bush has been in office, the drug-trafficking networks' potential has not only not diminished, but instead has increased.

If it were simply a matter of supply and demand the issue would be a U.S. domestic policy topic and would receive attention only as such. What gives the issue international and especially bilateral relevance, is the intent to extend the struggle—"without blushing" over the violation of laws—to the nations that the United States considers necessary. Bush's proposal contains a few demands that other countries have also made on various occasions, such as the extradition of American citizens charged in other nations with drug trafficking, but the new regulation has taken another direction: Its strategy is to virtually attack the Hispanic and black sectors, which are identified as the enemy. Everything goes in this attack, even the violation of other countries' sovereignty.

It is rather peculiar that this true offensive against Hispanics, which will obviously have a particular impact on Mexicans, is being planned precisely when progress is being made on a free-trade proposal that should liberalize the movement of people and citizens. Both things, obviously, are not compatible.

Costa Rica

Government Announces New Economic Policy

PA3105031690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0028 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] San Jose, 30 May (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier today announced a new economic policy designed to reduce the gaps between social strata and the inequities which, he said, were left behind by the previous government headed by Oscar Arias, who ended his term of office on 8 May.

In his first address to the country, Calderon pointed out that the Arias government increased production "but impoverished both the dispossessed majority and the middle and professional classes."

Calderon said: "Without doubt, the worst heritage we received was the huge fiscal deficit," estimated at $300 million this year and equivalent to more than six percent of the GNP. "This large deficit forces us to take hard, albeit necessary, measures to prevent the grievous penalty of inflation."

Inflation reached 25 percent in 1988 and less than half as much in 1989. Inflation, however, "was artificially reduced" for electoral reasons, Calderon said.

According to the statistics directorate, inflation, measured against the consumers' price index, increased more than seven percent in the first four months in 1990.

Calderon said over a national radio and television network that the fiscal deficit must be reduced by more than $200 million to prevent the economy from skyrocketing into an inflationary spiral and to lay the foundation for steady growth.

Calderon promised to reduce official expenditures by $70 million.

Fuel prices and energy, telephone, and water rates will also be raised, something the previous administration should have done but failed to do, he said.

The government next week will present to the congress a tax reorganization bill "to collect more taxes and fees in a better way," the president said.

He added: "We will also increase stimuli to exports and set a ceiling on government-paid pensions. In addition, tariff rates will be adjusted and smugglers and corrupt officials will be prosecuted."

According to the president, the government will implement social promotion measures to reduce the cost of the adjustment on lower-income groups. External resources will be used for this purpose.

Calderon, who at all times avoided mentioning the true scope of the economic adjustments, said that budget funds will be allocated to buttress social interest programs directed at lower income groups. Such an effort includes temporary food assistance to families amid "particularly trying conditions."

El Salvador

Defense Bulletin Refutes U.S. Congressmen

PA3105001690 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 24 May 90 p 1

[Ministry of Defense Bulletin No. 145, issued on 24 May; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] "Three U.S. Democratic Congressmen, acting with little responsibility, have issued unfounded and ill-intentioned statements against 14 high-ranking military Armed Forces, brigade, and security corp commanders, blaming them for violating human rights and other illegal acts."

The three congressmen, out of a total of 435 members making up the U.S. Congress, have used as a basis 68 biographical sources listed at the end of a report which contains 34 quotes from "Americas Watch," 24 from the "Legal Assistance Office," and 10 from newspaper articles written by correspondents such as Joel Millman, Chris Norton, and others," the bulletin adds.

"The Armed Forces believe that these observations lack objectivity because the events have not been investigated and they are based on limited sources. Also, the Armed Forces stress that any accusations can be made in our country's courts and not at some international forum, given that all of this is occurring when the possible reduction of economic aid for El Salvador is being discussed.

A second report [entitled "Five Dead"] says: "Following heavy fighting at Calera Hill, at the San Jose Las Flores village, Chalatenango Department, three Bracamonte Batallion soldiers were killed at daybreak today while defending our fatherland, and two Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front members were also killed.

"This is what the 'General Eusebio Bracamontes' command reported, adding that four more soldiers were wounded. Many wounded extremists managed to flee the area where the armed action took place.

"According to what was reported, the fighting occurred between 0200 and 0400 today. The troops confiscated two AK-47 rifles, loaded clips, and various war materiel. The soldiers are combing the entire area, the reported added. San Salvador, 24 May 1990."

Rebel Arms 'Continue To Arrive From Nicaragua'

PA3005192090 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 May 90 pp 12, 67

[Text] Deputy Public Security Minister Colonel Inocente Montano has said that the Salvadoran Army is trying to

intercept the shipments of weapons for the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] which continue to arrive from Nicaragua.

According to Col. Montano, two shipments of weapons for FMLN terrorists have been seized since Violeta de Chamorro assumed power in Nicaragua on 25 April. One of the shipments was seized in Nueva Ocotepeque, Honduras.

The military chief said that this information is being handled very carefully so as not to reveal the source of the information and in this way continue to work.

Other military sources have said that President Chamorro has no knowledge of these shipments.

Regarding the agreements reached during the last round of talks between the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN in Caracas, Venezuela, Col. Montano said that he expected much more from the talks. He had hoped for a shorter deadline for an end to the violence. However, he added, the Salvadoran people "have lived through 10 years of war and waiting a few more months will be worth it."

Regarding the threats of a new terrorist offensive announced by the rebels, Deputy Minister Montano said that "those foolhardy statements in no way favor a climate of peace."

Asked about the death of leftist Hector Oqueli Colindres who was killed in Guatemala, Col. Montano said that it is part of the wave of violence that is lashing the two countries and that "our Armed Forces have nothing to do with it."

More on Events Relating to Hector Oqueli Murder

Envoy Denies Soldiers Responsible

PA2505232690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2153 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 May (ACAN-EFE)—Today, Salvadoran Ambassador to Guatemala Rafael Zaldivar denied that Salvadoran soldiers murdered a leftist leader and stated that Rebel Commander Shafik Handal's accusation will not hinder the peace dialogue between the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas.

Handal had asserted in Caracas that Salvadoran Army officers murdered leftist leader Hector Oqueli, the Salvadoran National Revolutionary Movement's secretary general, on 11 January.

The diplomat said that his government has not investigated Oqueli's death. Zaldivar stated to ACAN-EFE that the Salvadoran regime does not have the needed criteria at present to issue an accusation for this crime, but expects to obtain the evidence to do so.

Handal, commander of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), accused Colonel Mario Dennis Moran, Salvadoran military attache to Guatemala, of being one of those who headed the actions to murder Oqueli.

Oqueli was found dead, together with Guatemalan attorney Hilda Flores, one of the leaders of the Guatemalan Socialist Democratic Party, in Southeastern Guatemala.

The ambassador considers Handal's statements to be part of the guerrillas' strategy in the negotiations currently being held with a Salvadoran commission concerning the dismantling or reduction of the Salvadoran Army.

The diplomatic mission "does not know of any initial results from a Guatemalan investigation into the death of Oqueli."

"These accusations will not prevent negotiations between the government and the FMLN," said the diplomat.

Furthermore, the Salvadoran ambassador stated that the Guatemalan Government has not sent the embassy or the Salvadoran regime any official communication related to investigation of this crime.

Cristiani Denies Receiving Report

PA2905195990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani has denied he received a report from the government of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo in which a Salvadoran officer is implicated in the January murder of Social Democrat leader Hector Oqueli Colindres.

Cristiani said: We have been trying through the Foreign Ministry to get them to pass the report on to us, which so far we have not received. The president added that this is discourteous, because even the FMLN has received a copy.

FMLN Commander Shafik Handal said last week that according to the report given by President Vinicio Cerezo to his Venezuelan colleague Carlos Andres Perez, Colonel Mario Denis Moran, the Salvadoran military attache to Guatemala, appears to be implicated in Oqueli's murder. This report was conveyed to Carlos Andres Perez because of his position as vice president of Socialist International, an organization in which the murdered Salvadoran politician was a high-ranking leader. Oqueli was murdered with his companion Hilda Flores on 12 January.

The Salvadoran president said he hopes that what has been said in this report can be proven and that the Guatemalan authorities have done a thorough investigation. We are waiting for the report, and when we receive it we will act according to the evidence, he said.

The National Revolutionary Movement, MNR, of El Salvador, of which Oqueli Colindres was sub-secretary

general, asked Cristiani on 25 May to disclose the names of the people involved in this murder. The MNR demanded that the Salvadoran Government should say who else, apart from Col. Moran, is guilty of this atrocious crime, and asked the Salvadoran Government to stop concealing the assassins and apply the punishment and justice they deserve.

President Comments on Jesuit Case, Other Issues

PA2905180690 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani reaffirmed that 4th Penal Court Judge Ricardo Zamora is the person in charge of solving the case of the Jesuits. He said that Judge Zamora has the government's cooperation in the investigation. The president also said that we are close to achieving peace in El Salvador, so we must not fall into the hands of those who seek to provoke confrontation.

President Cristiani said he was pleased with the latest actions being carried out as part of the dialogue process by the political parties and labor unions—which began their meetings. The labor unions include labor and management organizations that will conclude a work agenda on Wednesday, 30 May.

The president said he does not know exactly when UN representative Alvaro de Soto will arrive to continue his mediation. He added that the attainment of peace is near and that the next year of his administration will be called the year of peace and reconciliation.

[Begin Cristiani recording] We believe that the attainment of peace is near, and I will go ahead and say what I was going to announce on 1 June. I will do it now so that all the Salvadorans will begin thinking about their own attitudes, because peace in the country will depend on the internal peace of each and every Salvadoran.

We will call the next political year—that is, the period between 1 June 1990 and 31 May 1991—the year of peace in El Salvador. During that year of peace we must all do whatever we can to search for, find, and attain peace; once we have attained peace, we must live within that atmosphere of peace, understanding, and reconciliation that our country needs. [end recording]

Referring to the loss of the arrival and departure registry of the Captain General Gerardo Barrios Military Academy, President Cristiani said that Judge Zamora will have to evaluate the situation and hear the testimonies of the people involved. A Supreme Court of Justice communique claimed today that the registry was burned.

[Begin Cristiani recording] I think the judge must consider all the information collected from the collateral investigations carried out during the preliminary phase of the trial. He must carry out a thorough investigation. If more people are involved and the judge considers it worthwhile, there will be a hearing, and the jury will issue a ruling. I have always said that I will remain on the sidelines and adopt an impartial attitude. I will not jump to conclusions and decide if they are guilty or not. I believe that the judge must take this type of investigation into account to see if the evidence can be used. [end recording]

President Cristiani also rejected the calls for strikes issued by workers of autonomous agencies and said that Decree 483 will affect their salaries. The approval of this decree, he stated, will reduce the current pressure of inflation.

Later in the news conference the president said that the university campus could be returned late in May or early June—provided that the Court of Accounts sends the executive branch the results of the inventory carried out in previous months.

Penal Court Judge Ricardo Zamora said today that the Military Academy's arrivals and departures registry for 15 and 16 November was removed and reportedly burned, according to the criminal investigations commission. The registry is necessary to solve the Jesuits' case.

A communique issued by the 4th Penal Court indicates that the documents were removed from the Academy upon instructions from former Assistant Director Major Carlos Camilo Hernandez. These books were reportedly removed and burned by Lieutenant Josie Rene Mendoza. Lieutenant Mendoza was accompanied by four unidentified cadets who reportedly burned the books on the midnight of a still unspecified date between 1 and 16 November.

Judge Zamora said he will summon Mayor Carlos Camilo Hernandez and Lieutenant Mendoza to testify. The latter is currently under arrest for his involvement in the assassination of six Jesuit priests and two maids at the Central American University.

The judicial official also said that it has been discovered that the cadets who were on duty at the military academy the night of the crime are Elio Ernesto Munguia, Walter Danilo Merino, Gilberto Banegas, and Normal Filman Larama. They will be called upon to testify in the Jesuits' case in the near future.

Former Army Captains Issue 'Letter' to Officers

PA2805192490 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 22 May 90 p 3

[Letter to the "chiefs and officers" of the Salvadoran Armed Forces from former Army Captains Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval and Marcelo Cruz Cruz; date not given]

[Text] Messrs. Chiefs and Officers of the Armed Forces:

Comrade chiefs and officers: From our trench of struggle, as military men who have joined the revolutionary process, receive warm greetings and a fraternal

embrace from Captains Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval and Marcelo Cruz Cruz.

Our country's situation should be given deep consideration by all Salvadorans. It should especially be considered by the men in uniform who have a career in the military institution. These men are ultimately in charge of carrying out the plans that seek to defeat the revolutionary process and the people's struggle. These plans seek to maintain—under the political guidelines of the U.S. counterinsurgency policy—the exploitation and poverty in which the people live, and they seek to prevent, at all costs, the achievement of democracy, peace, and social justice in our country.

It is difficult to defend what is indefensible, especially when one is fighting against the course of history and human development. This is even more difficult when the men in charge of maintaining the situation of injustice with their weapons are also part of the great majority of the people, who are now struggling for greater freedom and the consolidation of authentic democracy in our society.

The reality of the life of our people cannot be hidden from any of us who have worn or still wear a uniform. This is because reality is not only found in statistics that are often concealed. It is difficult to conceal reality because every minute and every day, we find it in the streets, the countryside, the city, the work centers, the schools, and even in the lives of the soldiers. We find it in the poverty, the malnutrition, and the high infant mortality that have produced social discontent and consequent repression by the government. To ignore these things would be to reject the social development of peoples and this can only be done by those who, based on their own personal interests, try to maintain injustice, repression, and crime as a norm in our country.

The times we are living in are very important. Despite the grief and the sacrifice of the people, who have lost their best sons, and even though the struggle has not ended, new days are ahead. One can feel the daily clamor of the struggle by the people, the political parties, and the labor, peasant, professional, student, religious, and women's organizations. They are all struggling under the ideal of building a truly democratic society, where justice will prevail and where the people will be the creators and guarantors of their own destiny.

New aspirations of democracy have emerged in this atmosphere, rich in heroic examples and great battles against traditionally inhuman plans and methods. These aspirations are felt by the people, who are determined to achieve such noble ideals and build a better future for a new generation of Salvadorans. They are determined to bury a past filled with deceit, fraud, corruption, and crime.

The military institution should not be absent from this atmosphere. The men in uniform should be aware that only by being linked to our reality can they fulfill the responsibilities and duties given to them by the people throughout history.

Because the foundations of a democratic society must be built, the military institution must analyze and be aware of its role. It must also join the other sectors of society in building democracy, seeking our national identity, and rescuing our sovereignty.

We tell the comrade chiefs and officers who identify with these aspirations that this noble and historic mission not only requires their determination, but also a deep understanding of their duty, a great love for the fatherland and the people, and a great esprit de corps. This will enable them to overcome the onslaughts of the conservative and reactionary views which still lead the military institution and which, at all costs, try to maintain the institution in order to serve selfish and inhuman oligarchic interests.

For many years, there has been an attempt to foster an unthinking discipline that creates an officer or soldier of steel or one who acts on his reflexes with a blind obedience, able to carry out any order—whether it is legal or not. To be sure, the leaders of the armed institution do know what they want when they enforce their plans and orders. Those that execute them must only comply automatically without thinking why, and without the least scruples, about the damage they are inflicting on the people or the institution or on themselves as persons, because they end up as "scapegoats," carrying out the immoral acts and crimes of those that lead the institution, dragging it into an abyss.

A state of injustice has been maintained in our country under that institution. The institution became the instrument that crushed with its weapons any voice that would rise up to defend the people's rights and democracy. Thousands of our compatriots, longing for a better life for all us, have died under the repression of that sickly and evil system. Many good sons of this fatherland not only set the example but also gave their lives for the sake of democracy. We remember Msgr. Arnulfo Romero, Enrique Alvarez Cordova, Febe Elizabeth Velasquez, Ignacio Ellacuaria, Martin Baro, and many others who die every day and strengthen and give greater life and justification to the struggle.

We ask, as former officers of this institution, where are the chiefs and officials with humane qualities that can side with the people in this glorious struggle for democracy? When will the men in uniform cease to stand in the way of the dreams of the people? When will the men in uniform cease to provide support to repressive and unpopular measures and become the men who guarantee well-being and social justice for all?

When will the man in uniform become aware of the historic role that the institution should play for the benefit of the great majorities of which he is a part? Time

and deeds endure, and we hope our comrade commanders and officers will realize that now is the time for them to throw off forever the structures that separate them from the people.

To our military comrades, we say that the time has come to refuse to support the selfish interests of oligarchic exploitation and to cast aside the corrupt commanders who are leading the institution along those lines. It is time to make corrections and reorient the institution; it is time to make it work for the people and for democracy.

We, who know the institution and who have accompanied the people in their heroic struggle, say to you that the people and the revolutionary process place their trust in most of you. We are aware that in the institution there are worthy men with a patriotic and progressive way of thinking who share the desire for democracy and freedom.

We say that the people are aware of and share the sacrifice of all those commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted men who have paid for their love for the fatherland and democracy with their lives, in exile, in banishment, in prison, in retirement, or in neglect.

We know that the thinking of Colonel Benjamin Mejia and other heroes is still present within the institution.

The people call on the military to join efforts in this struggle and to keep in mind that the achievement of true democracy and social justice in the country is the task of all Salvadorans, including peasants, workers, students, professionals, clergymen, businessmen, and of course, the military and their armed institution.
For a true democracy and social justice,
For a free and sovereign country,
For an armed institution at the service of its people.
Captain Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval.
Captain Marcelo Cruz Cruz.

Cristiani Praises Mexican President in Interview

PA3005181190 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0005 GMT 26 May 90

[Report by Maria Cortina]

[Text] San Salvador, 25 May (NOTIMEX)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, who will make an official visit to Mexico on 7 June, has said that "Mexico is willing to help with El Salvador's recovery and pacification."

In an interview with Mexican media, Cristiani expressed his government's interest in expanding relations between the two countries. During his visit, Cristiani will meet with Mexican President Salinas de Gortari.

Cristiani, who is a businessman and coffee-grower, finds a great similarity between the Mexican and Salvadoran economic programs, particularly in "the development of policies concerning existing market conditions."

President Cristiani said that Mexican President Salinas de Gortari has been credited with opening up the Mexican economy.

Cristiani said, "Mexico had always had a closed economy that was very difficult to penetrate; there were always problems with bilateral agreements. However, new policies have resulted in an almost complete opening up of the economy."

Cristiani said that after almost a year of ruling a country that has been at war for more than 10 years, he found more problems than he had expected. He said he "is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel."

Referring to talks with the guerrillas that began last week under UN mediation, he said that he feels satisfied with the progress made in attaining his two main goals: peace and economic recovery.

Contrary to what he said on assuming the presidency in June, Cristiani said that no economic recovery project could succeed with a war going on. His about-face came as a result of the guerrilla offensive in November, the biggest in the history of the war.

He said, "I believe we have survived a year of many conflicts, with the offensive and everything else we have had to endure. If we compare June 1989 with May 1990, we can see that we have advanced a great deal."

El Salvador is facing great pressure from the U.S. Congress, which is debating reducing U.S. aid. Cristiani said, however, that his desire to strengthen trade relations with Mexico is not intended to fill the vacuum that might be left by a possible cut in U.S. aid.

He said, "it is meant to be a complementary measure, not a substitute. El Salvador wants friendly relations with as many countries as possible, especially with those that are geographically close to us and with those with whom we are mutually dependent."

One of the main topics to be discussed by the presidents during Cristiani's visit will be the renegotiation of El Salvador's debt to Mexico. The debt is mostly the result of the oil sent by Mexico through the "San Jose Pact" signed by Mexico and Venezuela in 1981.

According to Cristiani, Mexico "is willing to help with El Salvador's recovery and pacification." If the debt is renegotiated, "it would be possible for us to use those resources for development projects." El Salvador's debt amounts to $70 million [words indistinct] preferential oil sales.

In their quest for a political solution to the war that has claimed about 75,000 lives, the government and guerrillas have acknowledged the need to reach an economic and social agreement to promote democracy in the country.

According to Cristiani, the "Economic Solidarity Pact" promoted by the Mexican Government, "is a great example."

He said that "Mexico has been fortunate in having a social pact of this nature that enables it to have a measure of stability." He said that "Mexico is proof of the advantages of a policy of understanding."

However, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] demands constitutional amendments and demilitarization as conditions for ending the war. The FMLN also demands an in-depth cleaning up of the Armed Forces, which have been accused of several violations of human rights.

Cristiani, who entered the political arena in 1985, acknowledged the need to "adapt" the Armed Forces to "times of peace". However, he warned that they would not be restructured merely to give in to whimsical motives.

He said that the government could discuss the elimination of the civilian defense corps which "emerged as a result of the war," but not the elimination of the Armed Forces.

He stressed that "from the beginning, we have told the FMLN that the point of eliminating the Armed Forces is not debatable and, for this reason, it would be better not to engage in any talks."

In his first official visit to Mexico, Cristiani will meet with the Mexican president and with representatives of private sectors that have asked him to explain the situation in El Salvador and the possibilities of [words indistinct].

Col. Ponce Leaves for Medical Treatment in U.S.

PA2605040290 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 25 May 90 pp 7, 74

[Text] Because of kidney failure and severe hypertension, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce left yesterday for the United States to receive medical attention.

Official sources said that Col. Ponce left yesterday afternoon to be treated in a Washington, D.C. hospital. He is accompanied by his doctor, Health Minister Colonel Lisandro Vasquez Sosa.

The sources added that the high-ranking officer began to experience pain last weekend while he was resting at a beach resort.

As the pain worsened, the officer was rushed to the Military Hospital where he was visited by President Alfredo Cristiani and Defense Minister General Rafael Humberto Larios.

In the absence of Col. Ponce, Deputy Chief of Staff Colonel Gilberto Rubio Rubio has taken over the functions of chief of staff, the sources concluded.

Taiwan To Grant $400 Million for Projects

PA2705191990 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 26 May 90 p 4

[Text] The Republic of China will grant El Salvador $400 million for various projects, Vice President Francisco Merino announced on 25 May, upon his return from a 15-day visit.

Merino said the Taiwan Government has already approved $10 million to support the balance of payments and the construction of a free zone, an additional $10 million for the construction of a building to house the Foreign Ministry, and $380 million for the Land Bank [Banco de Tierras] and the construction of low-cost housing.

Merino also commented on the boycott of Salvadoran coffee imports by some leftist U.S. groups.

He said that the boycott is being conducted by groups who support the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and who are trying to outsmart the U.S. Government and people.

However, he said this action is being countered by the Salvadoran residents in the United States who are becoming more involved in defending our people's interests.

Merino explained in various meetings with the press that the people most seriously affected by the boycott are the producers, coffee pickers, and the asociations of small coffee growers, because since agrarian reform, large coffee producers no longer exist.

Cooperative Federation Seeking Members' Release

PA2905222990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] The Federation of Cooperative Associations of Agricultural Livestock Production of El Salvador [Fedecopades] reported today that five peasants have been captured. The organization is blaming the Armed Forces.

Fedecopades members disclosed that Dagoberto Sorto Fumes, Douglas Sorto Fumes, Ernesto Sorto, Ruben Eliceo Chicas, and Jose Freddy Novoa have been detained by soldiers of the 2d Infantry Brigade, headquartered in Santa Ana. This incident occurred on 16 May at the El Mirador Cooperative, in Piletas, Santa Ana jurisdiction.

Fedecopades has asked the top Army command to release the cooperative members and to respect their lives.

* Armed Forces, CDHES Discuss Human Rights

90P40039 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 26 Apr 90 p 4

[Text] Representatives of the nongovernmental Committee for Human Rights of El Salvador [CDHES] met yesterday with Colonel Carlos Armando Aviles, a high-ranking military officer of the Armed Forces Joint General Staff, and other officials in order to discuss human rights violations.

According to CDHES representative Celia Medrano, this is an important step in the area of the fundamental rights of human beings since the Armed Forces of the country recognizes the work done by this humanitarian organization.

She likewise explained that the first meeting held between that commission and the Armed Forces occurred last March when they met with Col Rene Emilio Ponce. He was given documentation on concrete instances of human rights violations.

"Altogether we have turned over documentations on 16 cases and we are waiting for results, because so far we have not received a response. But we trust that the military officials will begin investigations and act in accordance with justice," said Medrano.

"The meeting was positive," said another member of the commission who explained that they agreed to hold periodic meetings in order to coordinate efforts towards avoiding violations of human rights. "To this end our institution promised to contribute elements of judgement and evidence by means of documentation of cases which we see daily so that the Armed Forces can carry out its own investigations," the representative added.

Guatemala

URNG Bulletin Expresses Hopes for Peace

PA3005013990 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 May 90 p 2

[Text] On 28 May the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) delivered a bulletin to the National Reconciliation Commission, the Spanish Government, and the Guatemalan political party representatives meeting in Madrid, Spain, signaling the beginning of the peace talks.

The document says that "in accordance with the basic agreement, signed in Oslo, Norway, on 30 March of this year, to search for peace through political means, we have come to Madrid in search of a political solution to the conflict that our fatherland has been enduring for the past 30 years."

"Our presence here," the bulletin adds, "represents the determination, expressed on various occasions by the URNG, to reach a political settlement on the distressing and difficult crisis that Guatemala is enduring and to pursue economic progress and peace, based on social justice and true democracy, as demanded by the current situation."

"Therefore," the communique adds, "we are speaking on behalf of the oppressed, those whose rights have been trampled on, those who have been left behind, who are ignorant, sick, hungry, jobless, and on behalf of the widows and orphans, left this way by the war imposed on us."

"We believe that a political solution is a gradual process in which a set of political measures and changes are implemented in an effort to create the necessary conditions for ending this conflict."

The URNG communique adds: "When we stated that there was a need to hold a dialogue with the political parties, we did so firmly convinced that all of the forces which they represent had an interest in creating a new situation in which our struggle would be part of a truly democratic framework."

Finally, the URNG bulletin adds: "We believe that all sectors represented here can help in creating a favorable climate to developing a national political system. Therefore, we hope that at the end of this meeting we will be able to walk together, using the elements that we agreed to as a basis for peacefully building a new democratic Guatemala, with progress and social justice. [no end quote as published]

Rebels Reportedly Attack Highway Department Post

PA2905171390 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 28 May 90 p 3

[Text] Guatemala City, 28 May— Members of a guerrilla group have staged an attack against the installations of the Fifth Asphalt Road Division of the Communications, Transportation, and Public Works Ministry's General Directorate for Highways operating in Panajachel Municipality, Solola Department.

This criminal action was staged yesterday morning by about 100 rebels who were headed by an approximately 20-year-old woman, neighbors told the local police and the authorities.

The fire destroyed two dump trucks, a tractor, communications equipment, typewriters, office equipment, and documents.

By yesterday afternoon there was still no information on the total losses. Today workers will carry out an inventory to determine the total damage.

Firemen in Panajachel said they received a call asking for help but could not send any firemen because they lacked the equipment.

Reports obtained by EL GRAFICO personnel show that the perpetrators of the attack left behind fly sheets with

the acronyms URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] and EGP [Poor People's Guerrillas Army]. The rebels fled toward Oro Hill.

Army patrols from the military zone deployed to the area are conducting search operations to find the rebels.

URNG Says Attack 'Doubtful'

PA2805225190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2018 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] San Lorenzo del Escorial (Spain) [No date as received]—Leaders of the URNG, who began peace talks with Guatemalan politicians today in Spain, have told EFE they seriously doubt that guerrillas attacked a camp of the National Highway Directorate in Solola.

It is very doubtful that such an attack did indeed take place, because there are no guerrillas in that area at this time, they added.

The URNG leaders also said that it is strange that the attack, which took place on 27 May, was attributed to the People's Guerrilla Army, an URNG member organization.

Commander Rolando Moran is the only guerrilla leader not present at the talks. The other URNG representatives knew nothing about the Solola attack until EFE informed them about it.

According to Guatemalan police, the attack involved a guerrilla column comprised of 100 men and led by a woman. There were no casualties, but vehicles, documents, and a communications system were destroyed.

Communique Condemns Action

PA2905172690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1608 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] San Lorenzo del Escorial, Spain, 29 May (EFE)—The representatives of the nine political parties who are meeting with the Guatemalan guerrillas have strongly condemned the attack carried out by an alleged guerrilla column against a camp of the General Directorate of Highways in Solola.

In a communique, the representatives claim that an end to this type of action will make a considerable contribution to the better development and positive results of the dialogue which they have initiated with good will to reach a peaceful solution to the country's problems.

They also warn that these terrorist acts negatively affect the people, because they gradually destroy the infrastructure, property, and services needed for the country's welfare.

However, URNG leaders, who said that they know nothing about the attack, assured EFE reporters in Madrid that there are currently no guerrillas in the area. A URNG spokesman stressed that it is very doubtful that this attack actually occurred.

According to the Guatemalan police, the attack by a guerrilla column of about 100 persons, led by a woman, destroyed vehicles, documents, and the communications system, but did not result in any casualties.

'Incidents' Along Border With Belize Reported

PA2905044890 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE 28 May 90 p 4

[Text] Border incidents between El Peten and Belize continued yesterday, according to Jose Domingo Tista, age 50, who was accompanied by military commissioner Alberto Coc Tiul when he asked the authorities for protection.

Tista said that 20 soldiers from Belize, or men dressed in Belizean Army uniforms, went to his private property in Santiago Salajte, Poptun and abused his family.

He said that the soldiers threatened his two sons, Amilcar Leonel, 18, and Jose Edgar, 15, by pushing their guns into their chests. They then beat the boys and forced them to eat corn. The Belizean soldiers also robbed them of 290 quetzals and a watch worth 180 quetzals.

Tista charged that the soldiers told him the Belize Army was giving them a few days to leave or they would burn his land.

Foreign Minister Comments

PA3105004690 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Ariel Rivera y Diaz has expressed incredulity regarding the reported incidents at the Guatemalan-Belizean border last week.

[Begin recording] [Rivera] I have received reports from both the defense and government ministries on the incidents. I have spoken with the British ambassador and asked him about this matter. As you know, we have no direct relations with Belize. All of our contacts are through the British Embassy. The ambassador told me what he knew. I want to check it against the reports from the Defense and Government Ministries. I discussed the matter with the government ministry yesterday. Today, I asked the deputy minister to repeat our request. Based on this, I will talk to the president and maybe some Belizean officials.

[Unidentified reporter] Was there any violation of Guatemalan territory?

[Rivera] No, we do not know for sure. I think it was a problem with some families, according to the version I have. I must have the official version both from the Defense and Government Ministries. [end recording]

Rivera y Diaz also reported that significant progress has been made in the preparations for the Central American economic summit.

[Begin Rivera recording] Yesterday we received a facsimile of the version of the document that CEPALI [not further identified] drafted at the request of the Guatemalan Government. This discussion is being held by the technical economic cabinet, representatives of the Finance Ministry, the Bank of Guatemala, the Economic Ministry and the Economic Planning Ministry. A report will be presented to the government tomorrow and to the president on Saturday, 2 June. Guatemalan economist (?Rosenthal) will come from Santiago, Chile. The Guatemalan Government would then have sufficient evidence to make a decision. Based on an analysis to be submitted to the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration and some other interested institutions, a document will be drafted for presentation to the board's president. [end recording]

Official Discusses 'Fuel Shortage' Rumors

PA3105004190 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Rumors of an alleged fuel shortage, particularly bunker oil, circulated in Guatemala City on 24 May. Official sources dismissed the rumors, just as they did last week when other reports about a fuel shortage, which never occurred, were circulating. The alleged threat of a fuel shortage became known in the government after it was reported that the Texaco refinery in Escuintla had virtually exhausted its supply. Carlos Perez Castaneda, chairman of the congressional energy commission, and deputies Juan Carlos Simmons and Leonel Prolo Campos have commented on this situation.

[Begin Perez recording] I just spoke with the Texaco people who told me that fuel production was halted last night. There will be no more fuel available. The corporation deposited 11 million quetzales at the Bank of Guatemala to amortize the oil purchase. Regrettably, the famous presidential trip to Venezuela was not productive because the oustanding oil invoice was not negotiated. I was also told that the oil tanker rode four days at anchor waiting for the amortization. Since this failed to happen, the ship had to return to port. We have been told that there will be fuel for 15 days only and that the bunker oil in storage will last until 31 May only. This means that there will be no bunker oil as of 1 June. This is a delicate matter because the industry in Guatemala will be virtually paralyzed.

The minister of energy and mines has reported that he is going to Venezuela to settle the problem of the 300 million [currency not specified] debt and the purchase of the bunker oil. Unfortunately, Guatemalan fuel distributors deposited the 11 million quetzales at a preferential rate of 3.22 quetzales to the U.S. dollar, as it had been established, but did not succeed in obtaining the U.S. dollars to pay for this invoice. You know it takes a tanker approximately 15 days to arrive here from Venezuela. I think the problem now is more acute than the one we had experienced late last year. If the energy authorities fail to ensure the ship's arrival before 15 days, the refinery's supply, which normally lasts 15 or 20 days, will be exhausted.

Finally, I have also been informed that $800,000 are required at once to ensure the supply of fuel in Guatemala for 15 days. Negotiations are underway with the Bank of Guatemala to obtain the $800,000 necessary to pay for the invoice and so the tanker can unload. [end recording]

Honduras

Refugee Coordinator Discusses Contras' 'Return'

PA2905233090 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 28 May 90

[Interview with Colonel Abraham Garcia Turcios, National Refugee Commission Coordinator General, by Danilo Izaguirre in Tegucigalpa; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Garcia] I would like to clearly state something that is not quite clear. The contras have not returned to the country. That must be quite clear. They have simply crossed the border, but they have not returned—except 14 persons who have returned to the Yamales camp to convince their comrades to return.

Now, to answer your question, I would like to tell you that these persons, meaning the contras and their relatives....[changes thought] There are enough funds for them to stay six months in Honduras. Once that budget is used, it will not be increased and Honduras can implement the immigration law to compel them to leave the national territory.

[Izaguirre] Colonel, how could these people be allowed to return to the national territory? Was there a reason?

[Garcia] No. The truth is that the border area is very extensive. I do not know if you have been there. It is a mountainous region and anyone can enter.

[Izaguirre] But they returned en masse, in groups.

[Garcia] No, they did not enter the country.

[Izaguirre] I see.

[Garcia] They have not entered. I am talking about the persons you mentioned, meaning approximately 500 persons. They have not entered the country.

[Izaguirre] How many have entered?

[Garcia] Just 14 persons have entered within that time frame and they went to the Yamales camp. They came to convince their comrades to return to Nicaraguan territory.

[Izaguirre] Yes, I went to Yamales when the national territory was recovered and I remember you were there. We understand that these people were not....[changes

thought] We talked with General Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez and President Rafael Leonardo Callejas, and they told us that this situation was settled and that it was our territory now. We have discovered that those people have come back.

[Garcia] No, no. In other words, the people, who were in Yamales when you visited, are still there. Members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], their relatives, and the maimed fighters have not moved. Those people remain there.

[Izaguirre] Can the immigration laws be applied to these people?

[Garcia] It is exactly the same situation, because they do not qualify as refugees.

[Izaguirre] I see. What is the role of the UNHCR [United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees] in this, Colonel?

[Garcia] The UNHCR's role in this is that given it by the United Nations, through the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification]. The UNHCR is the operational branch of the two organizations that provide the economic support, food, and medicine that these people need.

[Izaguirre] Have you talked with those people? Do they know that they have to return to Nicaragua? How many people are truly involved? Only 14?

[Garcia] We talked with....[corrects himself] We hold coordination meetings every Thursday with the CIAV, ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America], the Honduran Government, the UNHCR, and Honduran immigration authorities.

[Izaguirre] What is the attitude of those people, meaning those who are still in Honduran territory?

[Garcia] They simply have to wait before deciding to return. It all depends on the internal situation in Nicaragua and the facilities or guarantees offered by the government.

[Izaguirre] Then the report about the 500 contras is not true? Only 14 are trying to convince those who are here?

[Garcia] Definitely, that number of contras has not entered the country.

[Izaguirre] Colonel, why was that figure given? What happened?

[Garcia] I would not like to discuss the details because, unfortunately, an official in the zone made a mistake, which is how the whole mess started.

[Izaquirre] Now then, are you aware of the responsibility of the UNHCR and the government? The national territory was recovered there?

[Garcia] There is no doubt about our responsibilities, particularly mine, because I am a Honduran Government representative. That is why the people who were found in Bocay could not go to Yamales. They were taken to Teupasenti, where they are right now.

[Izaguirre] Colonel, how long will the UNHCR work on this? How long will it be working with refugees within our national territory?

[Garcia] It is difficult to say for how long. Right now I can guarantee that approximately 10,200 Nicaraguans are registered and ready to return to Nicaragua. What has happened is that the Nicaraguan Government has not authorized their return. We have been negotiating with the Nicaraguan Government, we have requested an urgent meeting with the Nicaraguan Government, but we are yet to receive a reply so that government officials from either country can discuss the refugee issue and their eventual return. I have clearly said, and I hope my words are clearly heard, that the Nicaraguan Government must provide the facilities so that these persons can return to Nicaragua.

[Izaguirre] Ten thousand Nicaraguans? All of them are Nicaraguans?

[Garcia] All of them. There are all kinds—refugees, illegal aliens, and people without documents. There are no contras. This is a separate problem. The only link they have with the refugees is that they are all Nicaraguans.

[Izaguirre] Ten thousand, two hundred?

[Garcia] That is correct.

[Izaguirre] When do you expect to hold a meeting with Violeta Chamorro?

[Garcia] We requested a meeting for last week. In other words, we still want a meeting—this time it is urgent. I hope that the Nicaraguan Government will respond positively next week so that we can hold the meeting.

Coffee Farmers Demand Compensation From U.S.

PA2905185590 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 23 May 90 p 2

[Text] Wilfredo Castellanos, president of the Honduran Association of Coffee Producers (Ahprocafe), warned the government yesterday that if it does not submit to the United States the farmers' compensation claim, in connection with the presence of the contras, his group will file the claim. Castellanos said he put trust in the "political goodwill" expressed by the Honduran Government to seek compensation for the "damage and harm" suffered by thousands of families of coffee growers. These families were uprooted from their zones during the fighting between the Nicaraguan Resistance and the Sandinists. These families are worried because "there are contra families" in the border areas, and all the towns are occupied by Nicaraguans, Castellanos said. During a

recent visit by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas to Yamales, he said "we made sure there are no armed persons, but the Nicaraguans" have not left the lands belonging to Hondurans." [quotation marks as published]

These persons who are not Hondurans must be demobilized, he said, so that farmers who have been displaced from their own lands can return to those zones. The destruction of crops alone totals $50 million worth of damage, and the ecological destruction is another $75 million.

However, the total damage involving the civilian population is estimated at $300 million, Castellanos said. Previously, Ahprocafe announced that it will seek compensation from the United States. The Honduran Congress already approved a resolution for approximately 19 million lempiras.

Nicaragua

Government, RN Sign 'Protocol on Disarmament'

PA3005161290 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 May 90

["Managua Protocol on Disarmament" signed in Managua on 30 May—read by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo]

[Text] Within the spirit of the Managua Declaration signed on 4 May this year, the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], the Nicaraguan Government, and His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, through the present document agree on the following:

1. To expedite compliance with the commitment to guarantee the physical and moral safety of all RN fighters, their relatives, and the civilian population which accompanies them, in the following manner:

a. Immediately examine the seriously ill so that they can receive the necessary medical attention in the country's hospitals.

b. Immediately transfer invalids and war-disabled to Managua for special treatment.

c. Create a commission comprising the national government, the RN, CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification], the United Nations, and His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to travel to Honduras and Costa Rica to carry out an exhaustive investigation of the living conditions of RN relatives. The commission should enact emergency measures to resolve any problems.

d. The RN is urged to immediately present a list of widows and orphans to enable the INSBBI [Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute] to include them in its budget, so that they may receive the monthly pensions to which they are entitled.

2. Through common agreement among the parties concerned, a center [polo] of development, as described in the attached documents on such centers, known as El Almendro, is established on the basis of the proposal presented by the government. Effective on this date, a series of actions will be initiated to implement this and to install the demobilized fighters in the centers.

3. The Nicaraguan Government pledges to provide a minimum of economic support to each demobilized fighter.

4. An internal order police force will be immediately created with the participation of the former RN fighters for the basic purpose of guaranteeing the lives and safety of citizens living in the centers. Similarly, it is established that these policemen will be incorporated into the Government Ministry. In addition, the United Nations or some friendly country will be asked to provide technical assistance for the professional training of the police force.

5. Conditions of security will be established in the demilitarized areas. To this effect, the following is considered necessary:
a. Seek an extension of the ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] forces' mandate;
b. Have the government provide complementary assistance to demobilized fighters who leave the security zones;
c. Demilitarize the area of conflict;
d. Continue collecting weapons from civilians in the area of conflict.

6. Guarantee the security of former fighters who demobilize and leave the security zones to settle in the centers. In addition, those who wish to return to their place of origin continue to have that option. It is understood that anyone who does so will assume the risks involved like any other citizen.

7. The government pledges to appoint a representative of the demobilized fighters recommended by the RN to ministries that deal with the former fighters and their relatives; namely, the Ministries of Health, Agrarian Reform, Labor, and others. Also the government pledges to appoint two members to the council of directors of the Nicaraguan Repatriation Institute.

8. The Nicaraguan Government pledges to grant participation in the local government—that is, within the centers—to former RN fighters who have settled in the centers. Similarly, former fighters who return to their place of origin will receive from state structures the support necessary for them to become incorporated into civilian life.

9. The Managua Declaration is reaffirmed in each and every one of its points, with particular emphasis placed on matters related to the decision that the RN may become a political party. This will permit the RN to become fully incorporated into this country's political life.

10. In compliance with the Toncontin agreement and its addendum, the RN reaffirms its commitment to demobilize and disarm no later than 10 June 1990. To this effect, the RN pledges to demobilize a minimum of 1000 fighters a day in each zone, effective on this date. Similarly, in honor of Mothers' Day, a considerable number of RN fighters will be demobilized.

Given in Managua on 30 May 1990

Signed: Mrs. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua; Israel Galeano, Commander Franklin; and Miguel Obando y Bravo, cardinal of Managua.

Ratify Disarmament Deadline

PA3005143490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1308 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Managua, 30 May (ACAN-EFE)—Violeta Chamorro's government and the Nicaraguan "contras" confirmed today in Managua that the deadline for the demobilization and disarmament of the rebels will be 10 June as was agreed upon on 4 May.

This decision was announced during a news conference attended by President Chamorro, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, Army chief Humberto Ortega, top contra leader "Commander Franklin" (Israel Galeano), and Government Minister Carlos Hurtado.

Likewise, the contra General Staff agreed to urge the troops to resume the disarmament process today. On 18 May the General Staff suspended the disarmament, claiming security reasons for their decision. The suspension was reconfirmed on Friday, 25 May, when the General Staff accused the army of killing 14 demobilized contras. This charge has not been proven.

The rebel and government delegations met last night and into the early hours of the morning, and, for the first time, General Humberto Ortega, Armed Forces chief, attended the meeting.

At 0600 (1200 GMT) Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo read the "Managua Protocol" signed by the archbishop of Managua, the president of the Republic, and Israel Galeano, which ratifies 10 June as the deadline for the contras' end.

The agreement states that the government will guarantee the physical and moral safety of the demobilized, the transfer of the disabled to Managua where they will be taken care of, and the creation of a police force that will be under the jurisdiction of the Government Ministry. This police force will be active in the lands given to those who are demobilized.

In addition, the United Nations or a friendly country will be asked for technical advice in the creation of this new police force. The United Nations will also be asked to expand the ONUCA mandate.

The protocol also establishes the possibility for the "contras" to become a political party "and to rejoin life in the country."

Meanwhile, the "contras" ratified their commitment to demobilize no later than 10 June, and the contra commands have stated that no less than 100 combatants [number as received] will be disarmed each day in the five areas where the contras are located.

In honor of Mother's Day, which is being observed today in Nicaragua, the contras promised to disarm "a large number of combatants."

Hold News Conference

PA3005200590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 May 90

[News conference by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro; Israel Galeano, representative of the RN; Army Chief of Staff General Humberto Ortega Saavedra; and Government Minister Carlos Hurtado at the Government House in Managua with unidentified reporters, following publication of the "Managua Protocol on Disarmament" —live]

[Text] [Reporter] Commander Franklin [Israel Galeano], apart from providing more details on the demobilization and security of the fighters, how does this protocol on disarmament differ from the other agreements? In other words, the RN has decided in the past to suspend the demobilization process for several reasons. What makes you think that this will not happen again? What sort of commitment is there to prevent this since only 10 or 11 days remain before the deadline? If only 11 days remain, and there are some 9,000 or 10,000 fighters, it would have to be done at the rate of some 1,000 fighters a day to meet the deadline. Are you going to end the suspension right away? In other words, will there no longer be a suspension of the demobilization, or is there a possibility that it will happen again?

[Announcer] That question was asked by a female journalist who was granted the floor by Dr. Danilo Lacayo, director of information and the press. The president of the Republic wanted a clarification, and she is now speaking.

[Chamorro, in progress]...an agreement on Mother's Day, in which the RN leaders pledge to comply with all the agreements they have reached in the past. Regarding your question about whether they have been in Managua, well, they must have their reasons. There must have been some inconvenience or misunderstanding. I believe that misunderstandings are cleared up by talking. As Nicaraguans, we want peace and reconciliation. This includes the RN; we are all Nicaraguans. That is why we are seated here.

[Announcer] That was Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, and Commander Franklin is speaking now.

[Commander Franklin, in progress] ...of your question, because 10 days is obviously a short time, is that the president has made pledges that you have heard. As for those fighters who have nowhere to go, or who have not demobilized for security reasons, we have agreed on areas—known as development centers—for them to settle in. Therefore, the demobilization process will be real.

[Announcer] Israel Galeano, Commander Franklin, is answering and supporting what President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro said about demobilization.

[Commander Franklin, in progress]... Moreover, it is our duty.

[Reporter] Could I ask another quick question?

[Commander Franklin] Yes.

[Reporter] The negotiating commission you sent to Managua last week suspended the talks because of a massacre that reportedly took place near Matagalpa. So far, there has been no proof that it occurred. Nevertheless, the talks resumed without any proof that it did take place. What about that massacre?

[Commander Franklin] There was a commission carrying out an investigation and, luckily, it was not true, because if it had been true it would have been regrettable that lives should have been lost while progress is being made toward peace and stabilization. Since no proof of this massacre was found, there was much progress reached today.

[Announcer] That was Israel Galeano, better known as Commander Franklin. Osvaldo Bonilla asks a question.

[Bonilla] This agreement makes no mention of a reduction of the Army, as the previous agreement did. I do not know if the position that the Army is to begin a reduction on 10 June still stands, or if, as the previous agreement states, a program will be presented for the reduction of the Army beginning on 10 June. Could the president or Gen. Ortega answer this?

[Chamorro] Osvaldo, I am going to answer you, and later Commander Ortega will also speak. The promise I made was that Gen. Ortega would be obliged to gradually reduce the Army once the RN was demobilized, and there would also be an arms reduction. Pretty soon you will have a big surprise that I think all Nicaraguans desire, so that all of you can see the good intentions and the goodwill to demobilize, to dospose of weapons, so we can all have peace and tranquillity. I now yield to Commander Ortega.

[Ortega] We have been primarily working on matters related to providing appropriate security for the demobilization process that has been under way in the five zones all this time, and that has definitely reached a high point today. In this regard, the ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] and other organizations that have been overseeing this process have seen a record of compliance by the Army and the government regarding their commitments to the RN. As for the problem of the reduction, or the changes, to be made in the military structure and in the Army, we have also been meeting our commitments in that regard. Along with the central government, we have been carrying out all the studies that will make it possible for this gradual process to be carried out in the best way possible.

As far as I know, there has also been compliance with the promise to collect weapons in the hands of unauthorized civilians. This has logically been done in the areas adjacent to the five zones in which the disarmament and demobilization process has been under way. This process will be carried out in a better way and with less haste in the entire national territory so only the armed institutions will have weapons and so private citizens may own weapons of any type only with the authorization of the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] There is a request for an extension of the mandate of the UN security forces in that agreement. What I do not understand is, if the RN is going to be disarmed and demobilized by 10 June, why is the extension being requested?

[Hurtado] The request for an extension of this mandate has been included in the agreement that was just signed so that, among other things, the United Nations will provide advisory services to the Nicaraguan Government by working with the police force to professionalize and reorganize the force in line with the characteristics that the force will have in Nicaragua's new phase.

This was requested by the RN members, and the president agreed to it.

Further on Contra Development Centers, Agreements

PA3005152290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] A tripartite commission comprising IRENA [Nicarguan National Resources and Environment Institute], INRA [National Institute of Agrarian Reform], and the contras—with the coordination of the Repatriation Institute of Nicaragua—will start to determine the location of 23 geographic zones. Development centers will be established within these zones and the demobilized contras will settle in these centers.

Among the government concessions to the contras is the opportunity to choose from among these 23 geographic zones. These zones comprise areas like Atoyapa, Santo Tomas, Las Ramas, Punta Gorda, La Gateada, San Miguelito, Corinto, Rio San Juan, Muelle de Bueyes, and others.

According to the preliminary agreements reached last night between the contras and the government, the tripartite commission will determine the location of one or more of the development centers within 10 days. These development centers will have basic services such

as hospitals, streets, schools, electricity, drinking water, and areas for farming and cattle-raising.

It was agreed that the centers should be [words indistinct] for the country's ecology and forest preserves. It was also agreed that the contras and their relatives will be entitled to the resources of the forests located in their areas.

Chamorro Insists Humberto Ortega 'Temporary'

PA3105044190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0123 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] Managua, 30 May (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro insisted today that General Humberto Ortega's stay as chief of the army "is temporary," but did not specify how long. Chamorro had a brief meeting with reporters during her visit to a Managua Hospital to greet women who gave birth early this morning, because it is "Mothers' Day" in Nicaragua.

When pressed by reporters to comment on the situation of Gen. Ortega, brother of former president Daniel Ortega, Chamorro said: "He is there, where I have him working." The president had said before that Gen. Ortega would remain as the head of the army until the conclusion of contras' disarmament and demobilization, scheduled for 10 June.

On that day, according to agreements signed between the Chamorro government and the contra chiefs, Gen. Ortega must submit to the president a detailed report on the drastic reduction of the Sandinist People's Army. Gen. Ortega attended for the first time today a news conference held in Managua with Israel Galeano ("Commander Franklin"), Nicaraguan Resistance chief of the General Staff, where the "Managua Protocol" was announced, whereby the contras confirm their decision to lay down their weapons on 10 June at the latest.

In addition, Chamorro voiced her trust that the rebels will abide by the disarmament commitment on the scheduled date, and said "I have won their hearts."

Commander Franklin on Contras' Political Future

PA3105022490 Paris AFP in Spanish 0025 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] Managua, 30 May (AFP)—Israel Galeano (Commander Franklin), the highest military leader of the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN), has stated he will be the last anti-Sandinist guerrilla to lay down his rifle because he must "look after the fate of his men." Asked specifically when he will lay down his weapons, the contra chief said that he will "once my work of settling each of the fighters in development zones and the general demobilization are completed."

AFP interviewed Galeano at noon today in his room at the Las Mercedes Hotel, as he was just awakening after a few hours of sleep following the signing of an agreement early this morning with President Violeta Chamorro to resume the rebels' demobilization. The contra leader confirmed his plans to create a political party, the social base of which will be Nicaragua's peasants, a project that he will undertake "when we complete the demobilization and no longer wear military uniforms or carry rifles." Israel Galeano seemed to downplay the importance of the scope of the commitments he made with President Chamorro, although the implementation of this agreement represents the highest share of power achieved by the contras, since they are allowed to establish a rural police and be represented in several ministries. "Instead of participating (in the government), I think this constitutes a way to see that the problems of our fighters and the demobilized rebels are taken care of," Galeano commented. When asked if the demobilization can really be achieved by 10 June "at the latest," as the agreements state, he replied: "Not necessarily," but the RN does intend to show that "we have never been a problem to our nation."

Galeano spent all night Tuesday [29 May] and early morning Wednesday negotiating with the president the pact that gives the RN vast zones of the country to resettle as development areas, over which they will exercise a broad authority. The rebel insisted that "we were not militarily defeated" by the Sandinists during the nine years of war, and "we are not demobilizing because we lost," but because "we are a significant political force that can advance toward the future." Galeano will probably return on Thursday to his camp in El Almendro, 250 km southeast of Managua, to "undertake the task of informing the troops," and conducting work that will allow the contras to become "a civic force in the country."

Government Commission: No 'Massacre' Occurred

PA3005170590 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 May 90 p 2

[Report by Julio Cesar Armas]

[Text] Government officials who traveled to Matagalpa and Jinotega yesterday have confirmed that an ambush of 14 demobilized contra members and their families never took place.

The investigation was carried out by Deputy Labor Minister Dr. Antonio Ibarra Rojas and Deputy Education Minister Dr. Humberto Belli. They were accompanied by Luis Alfonso Sandino from the Nicaraguan Pro-Human Rights Association directed by Dr. Martha Patricia Baltodano.

The government delegation met with Jinotega residents who provided information as witnesses or who reported on the incidents being investigated. They also heard reports from the members of the International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV) and other citizens who have worked jointly with various human rights organizations. The delegation also held meetings with National Opposition Union (UNO) regional authorities.

The commission reached the conclusion that there was no such massacre. It is true that some people such as parents and friends of the allegedly massacred contras were alarmed because of the news. However, in some cases, relatives themselves have been able to confirm that the allegedly massacred contras are safe and sound. One example is Amado Hernandez, who had reported that two of his brothers who had joined the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] and had already demobilized were among the killed. Hernandez himself was able to confirm that his brothers are alive and have already been seen by family acquaintances.

Dr. Ibarra Rojas said that the information about the alleged massacre, which seems to have originated in a letter received by Amado Hernandez, surprised the members of the UN Observer Group for Central America (ONUCA), the CIAV, and the government, as well as the local and international public.

Ibarra said that it is important to note that the government has taken quick action to clarify the situation and that the road has been cleared to continue the negotiation on the RN demobilization and disarmament. He urged RN leaders to continue efforts to attain peace and reconciliation.

Ibarra added that their investigation has concluded and the result of it will be submitted today to Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo and his Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo.

LA PRENSA contacted Dr. Lino Hernandez, Nicaraguan Permanent Human Rights Commission (CPDH) executive secretary, who said that on 25 May he received a call from Jinotega to report that some people had been killed in an ambush. This prompted the CPDH to send its delegate Dr. Felipe Sanchez to investigate the report. Dr. Lino Hernandez said he could not comment until Dr. Sanchez presented the official report.

Paper Contradicts RN Charges

PA3005210590 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 May 90 p 2

[Report by Celso Canelo Candia]

[Text] Commanders "Escorpio" and "Condor" of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] general staff, of Operation Command No. 3 in "Cubali Central" Security Zone No. 2, located 300 km from Matagalpa, gave LA PRENSA a list of missing former rebels who, they fear, were killed by Army troops. The missing persons are Eliodoro Hernandez, Fermin Hernandez, Evaristo Hernandez, David Hernandez, Vicente Lopez, and a man from El Sarayal, Jinotega Department, whose alias is "El Aventurero."

According to Commander "Escorpio," the RN investigation commission is made up of Commanders "Chino Cuatro" and "Invisible." The commission members said they will clarify the incident that was denounced by contra chief Oscar Sovalbarro (Commander Ruben). On 25 May Oscar Sovaibarro sent a letter to President Violeta Chamorro. Copies of this letter were also sent to Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, U.S. President George Bush, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, General Agustin Quesada y Gonzalez of ONUCA, Santiago Murray of the CIAV, National Assembly President Miriam Arguello, the Nicaraguan Human Rights Association [Asociacion Nicaraguense Pro Derechos Humanos] (ANPDH) and the Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (CPDH).

In that letter, Commander Ruben states that the incidents took place on 18 May. Approximately 200 members of a cooperative were involved, and 14 residents of El Sarayal and Sardinal were killed. However, the RN contradicted itself that same day when it issued a communique saying that the "alleged" murders had taken place on 18 not 24 May, as the letter to Chamorro stated. [sentence as published] Over the weekend, LA PRENSA reporters visited the morgues in the Matagalpa and Jinotega hospitals and found no corpses. Regarding our reports from Matagalpa, which contradict the RN's charges, Commander "Escorpio" said "Sandinists are capable of anything. The important thing is that we have a list of former rebels who are missing and were probably killed." Residents of the area where the massacre reportedly took place told LA PRENSA that they did not see anything. They added that on 24 May all they heard were three shots fired into the air. "All of us are on guard and edgy because of the news reports, and we hope that everything is clarified to end the anguish," Waslala resident Vidal Hernandez said.

Alberto Blandon, Cardinal Obando y Bravo's representative in Security Zone No. 2, said "we went to Cubali Central on the 25th and talked to Commander Franklin. He did not provide any information on the alleged massacre. We are puzzled by the reports because the civilian population in the zone had nothing to say on the matter."

He added, "after being told of the so-called massacre, I went to the hospitals in Matagalpa and Jinotega to find out if it was true that the unarmed men had been murdered, but I found no one. We went into the security zones three times, and no one was there to report on the incidents. What may have happened is that someone tried to play a trick on the RN leaders."

The RN staff, however, said it did not trust the investigation report released on Saturday, 26 May, by CIAV and ONUCA. "It was a short report that did not go into details," Commander "Escorpio" said.

"Escorpio" also said that all fighters have shown a great willingness to disarm, and they will never be a threat to the government of Mrs. Violeta Chamorro. "We are sure that our president is willing to reconcile the people, but not the Sandinists because they want us to completely disappear," the RN commander said.

This morning the government told the rebels that the investigations conducted last Saturday do not confirm the assassination reports released on Friday; therefore, the negotiations were suspended.

In the letter sent to the rebels this morning, the government invited them to resume the negotiations so that the entire demobilization process is not delayed.

Ortega Comments on FSLN 'Renewal,' Government

PA3005190990 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 26 May 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Executive Commission of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], said last night that the renewal and democratization process the FSLN is experiencing is already being put into practice with the direct election of leaders, specifically in Region No. 5 and in the Autonomous Northern Atlantic Region.

Expanding on remarks by Commander Tomas Borge, Ortega disclosed that for the first time FSLN members are casting their votes to elect leaders in a democratic fashion.

Regarding the possibility of future alliances with other forces, the Sandinist leader said the FSLN is willing to work for the sake of stability in the country, including the government, but that does not mean entering into alliances or sharing the government.

On the matter of "following a single path," Ortega noted that it was necessary during the clandestine struggle. However, he admitted that following the Sandinist victory, "it pretty much prevailed, but from another perspective in which war was a determining factor."

The FSLN leader noted that his party is seeking new ways of organization because a party that does not change its structures dies, and the FSLN has the virtue of being able to readapt to remain the vanguard of the people.

When asked if the renewal process that is taking place at the grass-roots level in the FSLN will reach the National Directorate, he did not rule out that possibility.

Ortega, in remarks to local newsmen, assessed the first 30 days of the Chamarro government and commented on the FSLN's renewal process and the challenge to peace that the rupture of the negotiations between the contras and President Chamorro constitutes.

The "hasty" political and economic measures of the first month of the Chamorro government have heightened "tension and conspire against stability" in the country. Extremist sectors, instead of fostering reconciliation among Nicaraguans, are abetting vendettas, Commander Daniel Ortega noted.

He also criticized the strong currency devaluations that are hurting the workers' interests. These measures, he remarked, are not accompanied by wage readjustments in line with the inflation.

Ortega explained that to try to end the inflation "overnight" is an impossible mission which drains the workers. He urged the government to correct itself by returning to the economic plan implemented by the Sandinists, which entailed promoting exports and defending diverse social sectors.

He felt the Chamorro government is under pressure from diverse sectors to do away with the Sandinists, a situation which is compounded by the contras' pretexts to avoid demobilization.

The FSLN leader described the break-up of the talks between the government and contra leadership yesterday as a "challenge to the right of Nicaraguans to live in peace and to the agreements signed by the Central American presidents.

He warned that the government has the responsibility to demand the immediate demobilization of the contras, and said the FSLN could call for the mobilization of all the people, at the opportune time, to demand compliance with the agreements.

Commentary Urges Government To Solve Problems

PA3105010990 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Hundreds of people come to Radio Corporacion every day to tell us of their many problems and to ask us to broadcast them so that the higher authority, namely, President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, can learn of the people's suffering. The people ask us for solutions, but we must tell them that other than reporting their cases, we can do litle or nothing for them because it is the government's responsibility and if the government does not take the trouble to find effective solutions, then we are on our own. We often think of the Chespirito television sitcom, where the characters often needed help because they were in trouble or had it coming. The characters always ask who will defend us? And Cute Chespirito jumps out from anywhere. When we see the despair of the poor, the low-income people, the ones who feel there is nobody to defend them or do something for them, we would like to appeal to Superman, or Supermouse, or anyone to help so many unprotected and helpless people.

We get hundreds of letters and messages every day, in addition to hundreds of visits, speaking out against abuses committed against the defenseless and humble people who have no one to tell their troubles to. They list all the promises made to them, everythying that they were told before the elections. They were told that the military service would be abolished, and yet young men

continue to be persecuted and killed. Parents are again anguished to learn that their sons are being sought by the police. The people were told that hatred would no longer exist. However, just because some people voted for the National Opposition Union they are regarded with mistrust. Sandinist organizations continue to persecute them and collect past bills. The question in the air is: When will our suffering end? These people fear for their safety, well-being, and lives. Persecution has increased. Taking revenge is the order of the day. And everybody keeps quite. Nobody will assume responsibility. Concern and fear prevail among the people because they feel that they are alone and no one will defend them. Not even Chesperito can help them. How long must they bear so much injustice and indifference? Jails are growing full of innocent people accused of various crimes. On 21 May, we commented on the case of drivers Freddy Rolando Mojica, Jose Antonio Vedal Perez, and Jose Rene Perez Lopez, who are under arrest because they did not join the strike. They are accused of damaging state property.

Government Minister Carlos Hurtado has been asked to release them, but he has not replied. Meanwhile, three breadwinners are growing despondent in jail. The takeover of farms continues. Private and public farms are being taken over. Highly productive properties are being taken over, and no one says a word to protest so much abuse. Anarchy is everywhere. No one feels secure. Cattlemen complain that rustlers are stealing all their livestock. This is a never ending tale. There are more complaints with each passing day, and no viable solutions in sight. It would be worthwhile if the government, through its official spokesman, told the people about the measures being taken to end the abuse. That would bring tranquillity to the citizens who feel unprotected. The proverb says that silence means consent. The government must not be quiet or stand idly by.

Venezuela Provides Technical Security Assistance

PA3105042390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1643 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Caracas, 29 May (EFE)—Venezuela will provide professional and technical assistance in security matters to the Nicaraguan Government headed by Violeta Chamorro, police sources reported today in Caracas

The aforementioned sources said that a group of 50 Venezuelan Police officials, headed by Inspector Oscar Martinez Alvarado, are in charge of President Chamorro's security and of organizing the Intelligence and Prevention Civil Police.

Foreign Ministry Adviser Rafael Rivas Vasquez, former director of the Venezuelan directorate of intelligence and prevention services (DISIP), is the adviser in this assistance plan under the coordination of the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry, and the Defense Ministry, at President Chamorro's request.

The sources pointed out that the assistance is within the framework of Venezuelan cooperation to stabilize Chamorro's democratic government, which won the February general elections.

The group that is implementing security operations in Managua is comprised of DISIP, Judicial Technical Police, Caracas Metropolitan Police, and Army Reserve officials.

Panama

Endara Comments on 'Transfer' of Amador Causeway

PA3105022290 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] In a brief ceremony held this morning, President Guillermo Endara received the Amador Causeway from U.S. authorities who had restricted access to it following the events of 20 December. The protocol ceremony, headed by President Endara, was attended by Vice Presidents Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Ford, Foreign Minister Julio Linares, Presidency Minister Julio Harris, and Public Works Minister Rene Orillac. The transfer was done in a simple ceremony, where two Public Force members carrying the Pananamian flag replaced two Southern Command soldiers who were guarding the entrance.

[Beging recording] [Endara] The Causeway will be turned over to the Panama City Municipality and to the Panamanian Institute of Tourism so that they, along with the Public Works Ministry, can repair it and it, in turn, can serve the Panamanian public. We hope that in a matter of days or a couple of weeks at the latest the Causeway will be serving to provide relaxation and entertainment to all Panamanians. The Causeway will be used for tourism and other recreational activities.

[Unidentified reporter] Some people have criticized this transfer because they are saying that this area already belonged to us.

[Endara] This is not a formal transfer of jurisdiction because we never lost jurisdiction over it. What happened... [changes thought] The 20 December incident happened for reasons known to all, basically because of a dictatorship that provoked it. We are receiving something that we should not have lost.

[Reporter] Will the other buildings also be returned?

[Endara] Everything will be returned, just as it should be.

[Reporter] How will these buildings be used?

[Endara] We are studying that. The basic purpose of each one is to serve the welfare of all Panamanians. They will not be used for strictly military purposes, like before. They will be used for the Panamanian people, tourism, and economic development.

[Reporter] What about the former Special Antiterror Service Unit barracks? What are you going to do with that?

[Endara] We have to look into that. There is a commission, which was appointed by law, to investigate all the belongings of the defunct Panamanian Defense Forces and to decide what should be done with them. Everything will be used for the good of the Panamanian people.

[Reporter] What do you think of the church's criticism of your government?

[Endara] The church, like all Panamanians, is entitled to criticize and express its viewpoint. We have studied the criticisms of all citizens, even the church, and we will comment on them at the appropriate time.

[Reporter] When do you expect all of the occupied areas to be returned?

[Endara] We are going to discuss this daily. Foreign Minister Linares was telling me about the transfer of....

[Linares, interrupting] Rio Hato Base on 31 May.

[Endara] Rio Hato, we will see if this is done on Thursday, 31 May. And so, we will be busy with all these matters. The United States and the Panamanian Government wants everything returned to the Panamanian state, as called for in the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

[Reporter] There is a report that the executive branch is planning to retire the deputy public force chief.

[Endara] We have nothing to say about that. There is nothing to that right now. [end recording]

Linares on OAS, U.S. Coast Guard Patrols

PA3105043190 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Panama will question the indifferent OAS position toward human rights violations during the Noriega dictatorship. Foreign Minister Linares refers to the upcoming OAS meeting.

[Begin recording] [Linares] It is urgent for that institution [the OAS] to fulfill a duty that should be fundamental, in other words, to strengthen democracy on our continent. This year, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first attempt by Latin American countries to become a legal organization, which began as a group of states with common objectives. This year we also celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing in Bogota of the document establishing the OAS. It is contradictory that one of the key points in that document, which is to support representative democracy in the continent, is not enforced when a dictator or a group of people want to remove legally established governments. Therefore, it is fundamental for the OAS to realize that its main role is to strengthen democracy on our continent.

[Unidentified reporter] Are you saying the OAS is an ineffective organization?

[Linares] It has been a totally ineffective organization in this regard.

[Reporter] You have expressed that you disagree with having the U.S. Coast Guard patrol our coasts. Does Panama have the suitable infrastructure and manpower to guard all of its coasts?

[Linares] I do not believe Panama has all the necessary infrastructure to patrol all of its coasts. However, it would be detrimental to our sovereignty to have a foreign country exerting jurisdictional rights or powers in our territorial waters, especially under the current circumstances. Obviously, we could find ways that will not trample upon our sovereingty and our jurisdiction. That could be done. There would be no objection in that respect. However, I disagree with the first proposal we have received.

[Reporter] We would like to know your opinion about the OAS Human Rights Commission visit to Panama this year?

[Linares] The OAS Human Rights Commission will visit Panama at the invitation of the national government. One of the first measures adopted by President Endara was not only to invite the OAS Human Rights Commission to visit Panama, but also to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the Human Rights Court with headquarters in San Jose, Costa Rica. [end recording]

Explains Rejection of Patrols

PA3105010290 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2308 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares has said that the main reason the Panamanian Government objects to the patrolling of Panamanian territorial waters [by the United States] is the financial loss that might be incurred from the mistaken sinking of a ship by U.S. Coast Guard vessels.

[Begin recording] [Linares] I spoke with [U.S. official] Mr. Kozak about this issue and I told him: Panama is very interested in cooperating to fight drug trafficking, but Panama cannot assume commitments that at some moment might mean it has to pay an indemnification of $4 million, $5 million, $7 million, or $10 million. I asked him: Would the United States be willing to reimburse us for any indemnification we might have to pay? He said: No, because such indemnification would be ordered by Panamanian courts and not U.S. courts and according to domestic laws, the United States cannot pay indemnifications set by foreign courts.

Therefore, this is no longer just an issue of what for some is intangible, sovereignty and jurisdiction. Instead, we have here a much more concrete problem—the financial loss Panama might incur. I must tell you something. As foreign minister, I have not been able to establish an

adequate foreign service because I do not have $2 million to do so. Do you think I could be so irresponsible as to place Panama in a situation in which it would have to pay an indemnification of $4 million, $5 million, or $10 million if the United States sinks a ship?

[Unidentified reporter] Does Panama have any proposal with regard to this issue?

[Linares] I told the U.S. ambassador, when we again spoke about this topic here in Panama, that it is advisable that we first resolve these problems of indemnification. This is fundamental. It is also advisable that instead of authorizing U.S. ships to undertake patrols, it should send training ships to Panama to train our seamen so that Panamanian personnel will subsequently carry out the patrol tasks. The United States is considering this counterproposal by the Panamanian Government. [end recording]

Denies Human Rights Violations

PA3005172390 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2201 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Panama City, 29 May (ACAN-EFE)—Foreign Minister Julio Linares said today that the leaders of the National Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (Conadehupa) are "either acting in bad faith or they are not familiar with reality" when they say that the United States, not President Guillermo Endara, rules the country.

In brief statements he gave to the press, Linares commented on the statements made by Conadehupa leader Aldo Castillo, who said in Costa Rica that "a U.S. Army colonel has an office next to the office of President Endara."

Linares stressed: "Just by reading the report prepared by Conadehupa, one can realize that the persons who prepared the report are not acting in good faith, or they are simply not familiar with the Panamanian situation."

According to Conadehupa, one of the four organizations for the defense of human rights that exist in Panama, the U.S. invasion in December "has broken the administration of justice and the sovereign life of Panama." Conadehupa has ties with the previous government.

On the other hand, upon commenting on the visit of the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission (CIDH) to Panama in July, Linares said that the CIDH was invited by the government.

He added that "one of the first measures adopted by President Endara was not only to invite the CIDH to come to Panama, but to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the Human Rights Court that operates in San Jose, Costa Rica."

Linares said that he did not know of any human rights violations in Panama, contrary to reports by sectors who oppose the Endara government.

Linares underlined: "The person who states that there are human rights violations in Panama should present evidence or provide details for making such accusations."

'Considering' Break With Cuba

PA3005184990 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 26 May 90 pp 1, 12

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA yesterday that Panama "is considering" a possible break of diplomatic relations with Cuba because of Cuba's "hostility" toward President Guillermo Endara Galimany's government.

When asked about a break in relations with Fidel Castro's government, four months after Cuban Ambassador Lazaro Mora was expelled from Panama, Linares said: "It is being considered."

Linares said that "relations between Panama and Cuba depend on Cuba." He warned that if Cuba "wishes to maintain relations with Panama, they must be cordial and friendly."

Linares said that Panama gave a "first warning step" when it expelled Mora. However, "if the situation continues, the second step will not be a warning but a break in relations."

Linares admitted that relations with Mexico are at a low level. However, he did not comment on future political relations with Mexico.

Brazil, Bolivia, and Peru do not maintain ambassadors in Panama. Linares said that Bolivian officials and "influential" people in President Jaime Paz Zamora's govenment have expressed their interest in reestablishing relations, possibly "very soon."

Linares said that relations with Brazil are at "a good level," although President Collor de Mello has not yet sent his diplomatic representative to Panama. Panama maintains its ambassador in Brazil, and Linares said that the ambassador is invited to all official and unofficial diplomatic events.

Commenting on the OAS General Assembly meeting to be held in Asuncion from 4 to 8 June, Linares said he will attend "to strengthen democracy" and to ask for changes in the OAS structure. He said that "we must place the concept of nonintervention in its real light," adding that "the concept of nonintervention has been used incorrectly" by the OAS. He said that "Panama is a good example of this, and that this principle "has served to uphold tyrannies."

Although Linares discarded a Panamanian censure of the OAS, he said that Panama's stance at future meetings "will be one of implied criticism."

President Guillermo Endara and other government officials have questioned the OAS in the past, specifically "its lack of action" against ousted General Manuel Antonio Noriega, mainly after the annulment of the May 1989 elections.

Linares said, "We are not going to condemn anyone, but we will keep on telling the OAS that it has to restructure its institutions."

He also said that, as an institution, the OAS "has been timid" because its main role should be "to bolster democracy." The OAS Charter, however, decrees that this must be done "without affecting the principle of nonintervention."

Linares stated that Panama will play a role of "learning and rapprochement" at the meeting of Central American presidents scheduled for mid-June in Antigua, Guatemala. He said that Panama will "try to reconcile and unite the interests of the six Central American countries."

Arias Calderon on Removal of Security Officers

PA3005144190 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0024 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, vice president and government and justice minister, has said that the removal of high-ranking Public Force officers will not cause a crisis in the institution. Here is Arias Calderon.

[Begin recording] [Arias Calderon] When the president and we the vice presidents appealed to officers of the former Defense Forces to serve the country by becoming policemen, we offered them no amnesty or impunity. All Panamanians, whether they are policemen or civilians, can be investigated by the judicial branch. The intructions of the judicial branch will be obeyed, just as they have always been, because we live in a lawful state. The new police force serves this lawful state.

[Unidentified Reporter] Do you think amnesty should be declared in Panama so that foreign investments can be made in the country?

[Arias Calderon] I think the Panamanian people demand the administration of justice in accordance with the de jure state, and we are committed to administering justice. [end recording]

PRD Demands Adoption of General Amnesty Law

PA2705185290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2256 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Panama City, 23 May (ACAN-EFE)—The Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), Panama's main opposition force, today demanded a general amnesty law for all those "persecuted for political reasons," and it charged that its members are the target of "the most brutal political and legal repression."

A communique from the National Executive Committee of the PRD, some of whose members have virtually gone underground since the U.S. invasion in December, charged that the "current regime (of President Guillermo Endara) has been carrying out selective repression against the PRD leaders in order to prevent a firm and coordinated opposition."

"Leaders of our party are being held without legal grounds in various jails in the country solely because they defended their fatherland," the PRD communique added. The PRD was the main party that supported the regime of ousted Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The PRD announced that it will wage a massive campaign for the approval of a general amnesty law; for this purpose it asked for the support of the Catholic Church and the national reconciliation commission headed by Archbishop Marcos McGrath. The communique also claimed that PRD Secretary General Darinel Espino, who is in hiding, "is the target of the most cruel manhunt."

Espino and Eduardo Marin and Alfredo Macharaviaya, two other members of the National Executive Committee, are accused of making irregular withdrawals from the National Bank in 1989.

The communique charged that the Judicial Technical Police (PTJ) recently raided the residence of former Panamanian Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez, a PRD deputy, in search of Espino, "in an open and barefaced violation of parliamentary immunity."

The PRD also reported that the residence of former President Francisco Rodriguez "has been raided on four occasions" by U.S. Southern Command soldiers and the PTJ. The Panamanian authorities have ordered Rodriguez' arrest because of his responsibility in the irregular use of government funds by the dismantled Defense Forces of Noriega from 1982 to 1989, when he was comptroller general.

Rodriguez is also a member of the PRD, a party created by General Omar Torrijos, the first "strongman" of the previous regime.

The PRD also reported "an offensive against everything that symbolizes Torrijism." It mentioned the recent desecration of a crypt in a Panama City church, from where Torrijos' ashes were stolen by unidentified individuals.

Legislator Condemns 'Actions' of U.S. Troops

PA2705212690 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 May 90

[Report by Roberto Cubilla]

[Text] Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] Legislator Mario Rognoni has denounced before a National Assembly plenum, actions by U.S. Army troops which he described as imperialist persecution against members of

that opposition political party. Rognoni said that there are currently troops in Chiriqui, Veraguas, and in the central provinces arresting PRD members without the involvement of Panamanian judicial authorities or members of the Public Force. Rognoni also told the legislators, who listened attentively, that in the provinces mentioned, the U.S. Army troops based in Panama raided the homes of pro-Torrijos citizens, actions that he described as persecution. He added that the country is militarily occupied by the world's most powerful Army, which invaded Panama on 20 December with a contingent larger than the Defense Forces [FDP], with regard to the number of troops and the great sophistication to wage war, destroying all Panamanian military positions.

Rognoni made a proposal to alter the day's agenda, which was rejected by the majority of legislators. The proposal to alter the agenda involved summoning Foreign Minister Dr. Julio Linares before the plenum to explain why reverted areas such as Ancon; the islands of Naos, Perico, and Flamenco; the Rio Hato military base; the Amador Causeway; Amador; the General Jose Domingo Espinar military training facility; and others facilities in Colon used by the FDP and other Panamanian institutions have been reoccupied by the U.S. Army. These areas reverted to Panama in 1979, according to the Torrijos-Carter treaty.

After supporting his motion to alter the day's agenda, Legislator Mario Rognoni said:

[Begin Rognoni recording] Right now our country looks on with bewilderment to a series of irregular situations that, perhaps due to a lack of publicity or explanation, causes confusion among our people. We see how reverted areas appear to have been returned to U.S. control without the Panamanian authorities properly clarifying the situation. The Legislative Assembly's duty, to our way of thinking, is not only to promulgate new laws, but to oversee that we live under a de jure state and to maintain at all times respect for laws and pacts that have been ratified one way or another by previous assemblies and even a plebiscite, in the case of the canal treaties.

Today, all Panamanians see in the media the confusion about what is happening at the Amador Causeway, Kobbe Beach, Pericos Island, Naos Island, the Rio Hato base, and the Domingo Espinar facility; the presence of U.S. troops in the Santiago de Veraguas Stadium that no one can explain; the constant maneuvers in Darien Province; the presence of military troops in the country's interior; and how persons who are detained in various provinces—particularly those without documents in Darien—are handed over to U.S. military authorities and not to Panamanian immigration authorities. These are situations that require clarification from our Foreign Ministry. We have recently heard Foreign Minister Linares speak publicly on various occasions, clearly saying that he is not submissive and would resign before surrendering Panama's rights. We wish to note for the record that in the case of the foreign minister, he has at all times been willing to supply explanations, and a few days ago he told us he would gladly come to the Assembly because he believed it would be good to use this podium to clarify what is happening with the United States, as well as the country's international political problems. [end recording]

The summons proposal presented by Legislator Mario Rognoni was rejected by a majority of the legislators, who consist of members of the Authentic Liberal Party, the Arnulfista Authentic Panamenist Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and Molirena [National Liberal Republican Movement].

Comptroller General Issues Opinion on OAS Debt

PA2705201690 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles has sent a note to Planning and Finance Minister Guillermo Ford in which he gives his opinion on Panama's debt with the OAS. As of 28 February 1990, this debt totals $506,208. Comptroller Carles believes that Panamanians cannot justify paying half a million balboas in contribution dues to the OAS for 1987, 1988, and 1989, when it is precisely during this period that the OAS lent itself, with the honorable exception of a few members, to protect and justify the dictatorship that was oppressing and destroying the country.

Comptroller Carles' note asks how do we justify earmarking part of our meager resources to fulfill obligations incurred during the period in which the OAS, as the area organization, flagrantly breached its responsibility of ensuring human rights, justice, and liberty in Panama. In another part, the comptroller's note says that keeping within a strict sense of justice, the Panamanian Government shall recognize the obligations contracted from 19 December 1989 and the previous debt will be left pending.

Sends Letter to Delvalle on Funds

PA2705190290 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 23 May 90 pp 1, 34

[Letter from Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles to former president Eric Arturo Delvalle; dated 22 May]

[Text] Mr. Eric Arturo Del Valle. Mr. Delvalle: After the U.S. President issued an executive order dated 8 April 1988 regarding the freezing of assets, funds belonging to the Government of the Republic of Panama were deposited into accounts one, two, and three of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Since the U.S. Government recognized the government you headed as the legitimate government of the Republic of Panama, the total amount of $10,784,293.95 was placed at your disposal and/or at the disposal of the Panamanian Embassy in the United States of America between 23 March 1988 and 29 August 1989.

The aforementioned sum was placed at your government's disposal through transfers made to the embassy's account. The government you led received the amount of $10,784,293.95 through drafts drawn against the funds in account number one.

In accordance with the Constitution and the law, the use and destination of the funds that were handled by your government must be reported to this comptroller's office.

The purpose of this letter is to request from you the pertinent report, with the corresponding records, related to the handling and use of the funds in question.

The special situation of the government you led does not exempt you from accounting for those funds at this Comptroller General's Office.

Sincerely yours, Ruben D. Carles, Comptroller General.

Income Taxes Sought From Foreign Canal Workers

PA2905043690 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 May 90 p 1-A

[Report by Rigoberto Dumas Castillero]

[Text] Finance and Treasury Minister Mario Galindo has reported that canal workers who are neither U.S. nor Panamanian citizens have not paid taxes to the Panamanian treasury since the Torrijos-Carter treaties were signed in 1977. These are workers are foreigners who either were living in Panama or came from other countries to work on the canal.

The official added that a document is being prepared substantiating the criteria that these people should pay income taxes to Panama and that it will be given to the Foreign Ministry, which is the liaison organization with the U.S. Government.

We are going to insist to the North Americans that third country nationals working on the Panama Canal must fulfill the obligations they have with our country, the minister added. In order to not pay any taxes, these people are using a treaty rule that matches third country nationals with North Americans in certain priviliges, but in my opinion that ruling does not refer to tax matters, he said.

When asked if these people could be sent to jail for not paying their taxes, such as in other countries, Mario Galindo said he did not think that jail was a solution because the Panamanian Government had allowed these people to do this.

According to what my office has been able to investigate, Minister Galindo said, many of these workers with third country nationalities pay their taxes to the United States, which makes no sense to me, added Galindo.

Editorial Analyzes Nation's 'New Crisis'

PA2905230590 Panama City PANORAMA CATOLICO in Spanish 20 May 90 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "In the Face of the New Crisis"]

[Text] Amid the grave political and moral crisis that preceded the invasion, the Panamanian Catholic Church, via its legitimate pastors, voiced its solidarity with the people who were suffering the effects of the dictatorship, which on occasion went too far in its cruelty, corruption, and even cynicism. The church supported the cause of the people, whose banner was hoisted by the opposition alliance and the Civic Crusade and who were joined by other parties and a number of independent citizens. The church and its pastors were criticized and abused by regime officials and often misunderstood by parishioners who consciously or unconsciously supported the dictatorship that stood as the bastion of nationalism for some, and job security or continued benefits for others. However, to the church and a vast majority of the people, the dictatorship stood for an escalation of militarism that failed to respect its own laws and regulations or to deliver on the promises of the most lofty officials of the administration.

The disregard for the people's will expressed in the 7 May 1989 elections and the arbitrary establishment of a de facto government that lacked popular support not only heightened social discontent, but also worsened the country's already precarious economic situation and created greater uncertainty at the international level. The demagogic war laws, which were approved by a General Council of dubious legitimacy, contributed toward precipitating foreign intervention to fill a void of solutions created by the resounding failure of the OAS to resolve the Panamanian crisis.

The intervention of the U.S. Army, which invaded our country on 20 December, was welcomed by a vast majority of Panamanians who were filled with hope and illusion because they witnessed the dictatorship's downfall, the return of the exiled, the lifting of economic sanctions—which burdened the people more than the toppled government—and the return of democracy.

The legitimate government that emerged from the 7 May elections assumed power under the protection of the invading forces, and this created reservations among other governments and segments of the Panamanian population.

Two days after the invasion, bishops from various dioceses in the country established their position in view of an irreversible event: "...Our feelings as Panamanians have been deeply hurt because we feel that our dearest sentiments and aspirations have been trampled upon; a young and cheerful people, who love liberty, are living days of invasion and uncertainty because of the U.S. military action....These painful events mean a step backward in our national history....The cessation as soon as possible of U.S. military action and the assumption of

political, police, and military powers by a Panamanian civilian government are necessary."

In a new communique, the Christian Ecumenical Commission referred to the grave material and moral damage caused by the invasion, which shook the country and resulted in the loss of human lives.

Five months after the invasion, Panamanian society is enduring a very severe institutional crisis caused in part because the U.S. Government has not lifted sanctions against Panamanians, and in part because of the unhurried efforts to supply economic aid and the lengthy foreign presence in the administration of the country. Meanwhile, the government, which is deteriorating because of internal disputes, has not been able to organize the administration of the state normally. Promises made during the political campaign have remained unfulfilled. The administration of justice, with regard to crimes committed against the people, is imperceptible because of overwhelming legal maneuvers. Among other things, the political leaders have promised not to dismiss honest state employees and not to take revenge or pursue anyone for political reasons.

Every day needy people are dismissed from their jobs, and, subsequently, this causes suffering in homes because the people are left without the means to earn a living.

The Catholic Church cannot support unfulfilled promises and commitments. Its duty is to continue to oversee respect for human rights regardless of the political regime ruling us. Its duty toward the poor forces it to dissent from the ambitious actions of those who desire to privatize enterprises while the state becomes poorer because it subsidizes activities of the private sector and pays high interest on debts, most of which have benefited the private sector.

Democracy and liberty are not abstract terms that should only be discussed philosophically without stepping into reality. With regard to justice, Jesus Christ said: "If your justice is better than that of the Pharisee and the Scribe, it is in vain." If the current administration of justice is no better than that of the dictatorial government, the vaunted democracy will remain a visionary utopia.

Argentina

Army Chief on Pardons, U.S. Troop Presence

PY3005184690 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish
2100 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 May (DYN)—Army Staff Chief Martin Bonnet today said that an eventual presidential pardon to the military officers who are still in prison for having committed serious human rights violations in the struggle against subversion will be "a recognition" of their work in the Armed Forces and a contribution "to national pacification."

General Bonnet also confirmed the arrival in Argentina of a U.S. Army group. This group, which he said "is not large," will carry out exercises with the 601st Commando Company.

Bonnet made this statement today when he talked to journalists after heading a military formation at the "Libertador" building. This ceremony was held to commemorate "Army Day" on the occasion of its 180th anniversary. However, the main Army anniversary ceremony is scheduled for 2 June in Mendoza. President Carlos Menem, who was especially invited to attend the ceremony, will be unable to do so because he is on a tour abroad.

In view of this, Menem held a luncheon yesterday with Gen. Bonnet, Defense Minister Humberto Romero, and six senior generals.

During the Army anniversary ceremony on 2 June, Gen. Bonnet will deliver a message from La Gloria hill. Later, he will head a parade that the three Armed Forces branches will hold on a downtown Mendoza avenue. Mendoza Governor Jose Bordon, Defense Minister Humberto Romero and other authorities will also attend the parade. Moreover, in response to an invitation extended by the Argentine Army, the Chilean Army will send a delegation to participate in this parade.

Today, Bonnet sent a radiogram to all Army organizations. Among other things, in reference to the Army he said that "what started out as an adventure" was "consolidated in the defense of our long sought sovereignty, in the struggles to organize the nation, in the settling of the southern region, in the categorical rejection of terrorist subversion, and in the heroic effort to recover the Malvinas Islands."

In his dialogue with journalists, Bonnet was asked about the announced second stage of the presidential pardons which will allegedly benefit the commanders of the military juntas and other military chiefs who are still in prison. In this regard, Bonnet said that the presidential pardon will help to achieve "the pacification of the country" and that "it will be a recognition to the Armed Forces" for their struggle against subversion.

He also confirmed the arrival in Argentina of U.S. Army troops who will participate in maneuvers with Argentine commandos. But he declined to give further details on this subject.

According to unconfirmed reports the U.S. commandos—who total approximately 40 men—will arrive sometime between August and September. They will allegedly carry out joint maneuvers with Argentine troops somewhere between Puerto Iguazu, on the northeastern border, and the Buenos Aires Delta region.

An Italian company of mountain climbers is also expected to arrive in July. They will carry out maneuvers in the San Carlos de Bariloche area with men from the Army Mountain School. A little while after, Spanish officers will arrive in Argentina for an exchange visit.

Bonnet downplayed the importance of these operations. He said that the Army has had "exchange programs with friendly countries since 1950" with the objective "of being at the same technological level and of acquiring new combat techniques."

Asked whether these maneuvers are related to the struggle against drug trafficking and narcoterrorism, Bonnet said he does not believe that "this is the Army's most important duty" because it is the Army's duty to "safeguard those high national interests established by the government."

Asked about the Army salary situation Bonnet said that it is not the best but it is praiseworthy that the government is making efforts under such difficult economic circumstances.

He said: "People are not happy with their salaries, but we understand that we cannot make more demands." He added: "We have had a good response from the government which is doing its best to achieve a decent salary." Bonnet denied that the salary issue was discussed during the luncheon with President Menem. He said that this was not the proper time "to discuss budget issues."

About the morale within the Army, Bonnet said that "Army personnel are doing fine. They are full of hope and optimistic about the future" because "they understand" the difficult situation the country is experiencing. He said that "we hope the situation will improve."

Bonnet said that the Army "is united, from the La Quiaca region to the Antarctic." Answering a question, he said that no decision has yet been made on the sale of Army property because a reorganization of the sector must be done first to see what the Army needs and thus "avoid a loss of capital."

During the ceremony, retired Army personnel and civilians were given certificates for their performance in different academic positions.

Mexican Minister Solana Meets Menem, Cavallo

PY2505174690 Buenos Aires TELAM Spanish 0050 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (TELAM)—Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana today delivered to President Carlos Menem a personal message from Carlos Salinas de Gortari, chief of state of that Aztec country. Solana emphasized the progress achieved in cooperation within the framework of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) and the need "to improve and standardize some specific aspects of our bilateral relations."

At the end of a meeting with the Argentine chief of state at Government House, Solana, who was accompanied by his counterpart, Domingo Cavallo, held a brief news conference in the South Hall. At the news conference Solana emphasized "the old and close friendship between Argentina and Mexico."

The Mexican foreign minister emphasized the "clear and very pleasant" talks that he held this morning and afternoon with Cavallo. Solana pointed out that he commented to President Menem that "the progress in our relations is very satisfactory."

In response to a question, Solana then made it clear that "Mexico has not been integrated into a North American common market, but there is a free trade zone." He said that his country "has considered the possibility of beginning talks with Washington to expand Mexico's trade volume with the United States."

Concerning his contacts with Minister Cavallo, Solana reported that "we reviewed the progress achieved in cooperation within the framework of the ALADI and some specific aspects of our bilateral relations that we must improve and standardize."

The Argentine foreign minister spoke briefly in order to introduce Solana to the journalists. Cavallo said the talks that he had held with his Mexican counterpart were "satisfactory" and that the reasons for Solana's visit to Government House were to deliver a personal message from President Salinas de Gortari and to pay his respects.

Foreign Minister on Need for Economic Integration

PY2805134090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1502 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Cordoba, 27 May (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has stressed that "Latin American countries are opening their economies to the rest of the world as part of a process to resolve their own domestic problems."

The newspaper CORDOBA today published an interview with Cavallo in which he said that "Latin American countries are moving along the process of integration by improving on our regional economic system" and "we are doing it not to isolate ourselves but to be prepared for an opening and integration with the world economy."

Cavallo said: "At the same time we are modifying our legislation on foreign capital, and we are offering excellent conditions for investments."

Cavallo stressed: "We are going to stress our comparative advantages and investments will arrive, particularly those involved in the exploitation of natural resources, which are plentiful in South America."

Cavallo said: "We have to establish economic unity in Latin America, at least in South America." Cavallo added: "We have to revitilize ALADI [Latin American Integration Association] to present a better negotiating front."

Cavallo said: "What we genericaly call the developing South has to drop the attitude of confrontation with the United States and the other developed countries."

The minister said that we have to establish "the bases for a North-South dialogue to promote our nations' participation in the growth of the international economy and society. We have to get fully involved in receiving investments and generating and receiving benefits from world trade."

Cavallo said: "We are going to work in that direction in the Group of 15 meeting in Madrid this week. President Menem, myself, and an important number of presidents and foreign ministers will be present."

Reportage of Justicialist Party Events, Issues

'Summit' at Mar del Plata

PY2805001090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 May 90 p 4

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) Mar del Plata—The main participants in the Peronist summit taking place in this city last night struggled to smooth out differences regarding the terms of the final document to be read at the end of the meeting today. Sources said the debate among activists appeared to be more peaceful and successful than among the leadership.

Furthermore, the sources said the summit—held under the slogan "Towards the 21st Century"—would "not produce deep conclusions about political, economic and social changes in Argentina and in the world, as could be expected from reading the documents presented before the start of the summit."

Justicialist Party (PJ) chairman and Buenos Aires Governor Antonio Cafiero accused Radical leaders Raul Alfonsin and Leopoldo Moreau of being gorillas (anti-Peronist) and admitted that the government's economic policy "is becoming worrisome."

Cafiero said that "there are internal factions which want to split up the PJ," and considered that the productive revolution "has not started yet" because "we are still at the adjustment stage."

Nevertheless, Cafiero revealed that the summit will today issue a statement supporting the government and the reform of the Buenos Aires constitution, but making it clear that this weekend's Peronist meet "does not imply founding a new internal line."

Regarding the PJ's internal struggles, Cafiero said the rejection of the summit by Vice-President Eduardo Duhalde—who launched the Federal League last night—was "sensationalist," and underlined that "nobody must be excluded from the great debate." [passage omitted]

Menem Asks End to 'Infighting'

PY2805172290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1822 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Mar del Plata, 27 May (NA)—President Carlos Menem today urged Justicialist leaders and supporters to do away with "infighting," and to show Argentine society that "if we were able to install the rules of the democratic game, we will also be able to overcome the internal struggles."

He urged them to "open the debate" within the Justicialism but not to discuss "old strategies," because "we were not born for defeat or anecdotes, but for epics and to change history."

In his message that was read at the closure of the first Justicialist summit held under the slogan "Toward the 21st Century," Menem outlined guidelines aimed at restoring order to the situation within the Justicialist Party. Menem was not present at the ceremony.

Menem proposed the establishment of a "more dynamic movement" that can join both the political and social sectors and that can be aimed at "society as a whole."

He suggested that Justicialist policy remain "near the people," and that the sense of the organization be restored to take advantage of the multisectorial areas beyond the limits of the political and professional sectors.

The message which was read by Menem's brother Eduardo Menem states: "Politic should be brought close to the people's hearts."

Menem condemned the "continuous submissiveness" of state and government, but he asserted that "the excessive demands on government should not be encouraged either. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Menem proposed "generating power using society as its base," and setting aside the old practices of the right to use the bureaucratic state. He urged discovering new ways for society to express itself such as through free organizations of people and other intermediate organizations which he describes as the "sacred fire to be up to the new times."

Menem said that "no one should fear the confrontation of political projects and ideological debates," because the doctrines which do not evolve get old.

Duhalde Launches Party Faction

PY2705234590 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 May 90 p 4

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Vice President Eduardo Duhalde and Lower House Speaker Alberto Pierri (Buenos Aires) yesterday hurled severe criticism at the Mar del Plata Peronist summit while officially launching the Federal League, a new faction of the Buenos Aires branch of the Justicialist Party (PJ).

Speaking to some 20,000 people gathered at the Lanus Club in Buenos Aires province, Duhalde stressed that the Federal League "is not antagonistic to the summit" but nevertheless claimed that "the true followers of (President Carlos) Menem are on the street."

For his part, Pierri criticized the summit by saying that Peronism "is not practiced by making weekend trips and staying at the people's hotels (in reference to the union hotels used by the participants in the Mar del Plata meet)," also blaming the latter for "delaying our contact with the people in order to make contact with the party leadership."

The new line is aimed at lending support to the government from the ranks of the Buenos Aires PJ.

Duhalde specified that through the league they will attempt to "maintain the province in Justicialist hands" in the upcoming elections for the renewal of provincial authorities. However, he underlined that he had made "no commitments of any kind" towards Governor Antonio Cafiero's drive for re-election.

As for whether the League could pose an obstacle for Cafiero's re-election, Duhalde said that the candidate for that post "can come from any sector of the party, what's important is creating a majority force that will guarantee a Peronist triumph in 1991."

Declaration Issued

PY2805203090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 May 90 p 1

[Excerpt] (NA)—Mar del Plata—[passage omitted] The Peronist summit yesterday spelled out as its goals the battle against the economic crisis, the unification of Peronism to prop up the national government and the end of "corruption in public and private office."

With strong unity calls, the pro-Menem and Renewal sectors also proposed to cap "internal fights and slander," pointing out that the political party system was "the normal channel of participation and expression of

pluralism in a stable democracy." They also ratified "the desire for change and transformation."

These and other decisions were included in the final document drafted after several hours of negotiations, in which party chairman and Buenos Aires Governor Antonio Cafiero reportedly had the upper hand.

In the four-page "Mar del Plata Declaration," the Peronists explicity backed the Menem administration and stressed "we have finally come out to tell Argentine society that this Peronism, that of democracy, participation and social justice, has become once again—like in 1945—the pillar of revolutionary change in Argentina."

In its attempt to consolidate the party as a broad popular movement, the summit upheld "the presence of the labour movement as the protagonist and basis for the change needed by Argentina and claimed by the people."

Among the main issues raised during the two-day debate, the final document focussed on the economy and state reform, while considering as "unavoidable" an "adjustment placing the economy as well as public and private spending in line with the country's resources."

Cafiero, Eduardo Menem and labour leader Guerino Andreoni were the only speakers at the closing ceremony.

Cafiero used the opportunity to prod party officials and activists in his province to confront "the messianic authoritarians, the landowners who don't want to pay taxes and the obstinate antagonists", and to "say 'yes' to provincial constitution reform" in the August 5 plebiscite.

He also ratified the "deep-seated belief" of the summit participants that the Menem government was "the government of all Peronists and all Argentines."

Construction, Development of New Weapons Reported

PY2805192490 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1910 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (DYN)—Factories and shipyards under the Defense Ministry or the Armed Forces are building submarines, tanks, a new type of mortar, and a ground radar system to equip the Navy and the Army. These weapons will also be introduced to foreign markets, particularly in the Middle East.

The new submarines and tanks were designed in the FRG. The tank design, however, was later improved by Argentine technicians.

The Pampa advanced training plane was built following a similar scheme. Many specialists in several developed countries consider the Pampa plane very advanced. The plane will be mass produced in the United States in cooperation with a U.S. firm for sale to the U.S. Armed Forces.

Despite the importance of this technological achievement, experts consider that their greatest technical achievement will be the upcoming launch of a conventional submarine, a fact that will place Argentina in a priviledged position in the Americas because the United States is the only other submarine producer on the continent.

The new unit still does not have a name. Its construction began in sections nearly two years ago in the "Domenco Garcia" shipyards. It will be probably launched at the beginning of 1991, several months later than originally scheduled.

The submarine is of the TR1700 type, based on a design of the FRG firm Thyssen Lametal. The submarine was considered the fastest and quietest among conventional submarines some 10 years ago. It is similar to the "San Juan" and "Santa Cruz" which were built in FRG shipyards and which are serving in the Argentine Navy.

The original plan contemplated the construction of six submarines but three are still on the drawing boards because of the country's economic situation. The program will continue if the economic situation improves or if the country finds potential foreign buyers.

It is worth noting that the State Navy Factory and Shipyard (AFNE) is building destroyers and "Meko" type missile-equipped frigates with FRG designs. They will be called "Gomez Roca" and "Spiro."

The "Parker" was the last frigate launched by the AFNE. The ship was delivered slightly less than a month ago.

Other factories are working to improve the Argentine Medium-Size Tank (TAM). The combat tank beat some of the most famous tanks in the world in a test in Ecuador designed to select tanks for the Ecuadoran Army. The deal was thwarted after the new government took over in Quito.

The TAM is a 30-ton tank that runs at 70 km an hour. It is equipped with a 155-mm cannon—replacing the old 105-mm cannon—and a system that allows it to rapidly move from a position after four 30-km range shots in four minutes.

According to an Argentine military source the tracking system developed in the country is revolutionary. Authorities expect to sell the tank to Arab countries which up until now have been supplied mainly by the Brazilian factory ENGESA [Specialized Engineers, Inc].

According to the source, the CITEFA [Armed Forces Scientific and Technical Research Center], the Armed Forces scientific branch responsible for the production of new weapons, is working on the prototype of a new mortar which "makes no noise, fire, or smoke, and is therefore very difficult to locate."

The CITEFA is also developing a short-range ground radar system which is easy to transport and install,

according to the specialized magazine TECNICAS Y ARMAS PARA LA DEFENSA [TECHNOLOGY AND ARMS FOR DEFENSE].

Experts include among its specific uses the short-range combat area supervision and the peacetime control of permanent or field installations such as factories or airports.

Bolivia

President Paz Rejects 'Blackmail' Charges

PY2805151890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0248 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] La Paz, 26 May (EFE)—Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora has reacted with surprise to statements by Giussepi di Gennaro, director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC), who charged that Bolivia and Peru use blackmail in their treatment of the issue of coca for development.

Di Gennaro's declarations became known in La Paz through foreign press reports, and they provoked angry reaction in the Congress and government. Meanwhile, the opposition and the unions took advantage of the situation to point out weak points in the present administration's policy on drug trafficking.

"The Bolivian position on coca for development is adequate to fight drug trafficking and cannot be seen as blackmail," Paz Zamora said in remarks published by the press which also publishes many other reactions.

The president could not believe that UNFDAC Director Di Gennaro had taken such a position regarding coca-producing countries: "I am afraid Di Gennaro's statements were distorted by the press because he is known to support alternative development programs," Paz said.

Bolivia is the second largest coca-producing country in the world after Peru. The government maintains that Bolivia needs a development program to replace the $600 million a year that coca growing brings the country.

Paz Zamora said that the Bolivian thesis was accepted by the international community and within the United Nations.

"We heads of states are the United Nations. We decide what the United Nations does. Di Gennaro is an employee who cannot influence the decisions of heads of state," Paz said.

"Di Gennaro's statements not only hurt the country's image but they also hurt our dignity; they are slanderous," Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde said. Iturralde added that Di Gennaro's declarations "could hurt Bolivia."

The Chamber of Deputies will discuss a draft resolution on the situation on 28 May.

The resolution submitted by the International Policy Commission of the Chamber of Deputies asks the executive branch to abstain from attending international meetings on drug trafficking for as long as Di Gennaro remains at the UNFDAC.

The Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) criticized Di Gennaro for his statements against alternative development programs but added that he "was confused because the government intends to militarize the fight on drug trafficking instead of replacing coca plantations."

Defense Minister Ormachea on Armed Forces Role

PY3005031890 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Defense Minister Hector Ormachea has given a clear picture of the issue of the struggle against drug trafficking, saying that there is no such thing as militarization, but indeed deterrent participation by the Armed Forces. Hector Ormachea also established the true limits of this deterrent posture.

[Begin Ormachea recording] In other words, this confirms what I told you last week, that these agreements would be made known to Congress and to the public opinion in general. This happened yesterday.

Therefore, in a way this serves to deny those reports stating that we are saying one thing and doing something else.

Therefore, in the first place, what I told you—I think on 26 May, and many of you must have been there, and also on the preceding days—has been fully met.

In the second place, if you read these documents, the remarks that I have been making recently have also been confirmed. These remarks can be summarized as follows:

In the first place, the participation of the Army has now been confirmed. How could we describe this participation? The Army's participation involves a sort of readiness, thus joining what the other two branches, the Air Force and the Navy, have already been doing for a long time.

Therefore, I believe that the way to view this is the following, and I will take the liberty of giving you an example.

At this moment, for example, we are not at war with any country. Therefore, in addition to contributing in a number of other programs, like the ones we have just seen through the signing of this project, the presence of the Armed Forces is of a deterrent nature.

The fact that the Armed Forces exist, already represents a deterrent factor. [end recording]

Genral Moreira Comments

PY3005220090 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 25 May 90 p 12

[Text] (ANF)—General Jorge Moreira, Armed Forces commander in chief, and Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco have definitively said that "small groups" of members of the Armed Forces will not participate in direct interdiction actions against drug trafficking.

"There are some people who are mistakenly trying to prepare the peasants psychologically to lead them to believe that the Armed Forces, should the case arise, would participate in a direct struggle against drug trafficking through interdiction," Commander in Chief Gen. Jorge Moreira Rojas explained.

Gen. Moreira said that these persons are improperly using the term "militarization," which is inappropriate within military spheres and terminology.

Gen. Moreira added: "They should simply use the term participation, which would be implemented through an order from the president of the Republic and would absolutely involve small groups, not the massive participation of the three branches."

Always using conditional terms, the high-ranking military chief pointed out that the deterrent role would be filled through the physical presence of some units in certain regions as well as some support services for the Special Antinarcotics Force.

Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco explained that, in compliance with the Cartagena Accord, the Bolivian Government supports the belief that criminal drug trafficking activities are basically a police problem.

Capobianco again criticized the fact that the term "militarization" is being misused by some political sectors. He explained that the nation's Armed Forces "will participate in antidrug actions through logistic support for the specialized police forces."

Capobianco also talked about the "classes of political opposition" in the country, stating that there is a constructive opposition, which is usual in a democracy, and an opposition that is destructive to the nation's real interests.

Defense Minister on Increase in Drug Trafficking

PY3005032690 La Paz La Paz Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Defense Minister Hector Ormachea said today that more people are now involved in drug trafficking in the country.

He added that many drug traffickers from Colombia, Brazil, and other countries have come to Bolivia to escape persecution in their own countries; therefore, drug trafficking has increased. He said that the government, the Armed Forces, and the special organizations in charge of the struggle against drug trafficking must be ready to confront this situation. He said: We do not want to get in a dramatic situation like Colombia. Bolivia is still far from having cartels in its territory.

[Begin Ormachea recording] I believe that there are now more drug traffickers but there are no cartels here like in Colombia where their presence is part of the people's daily life. I do believe that there are more drug traffickers here because of the harsh struggle against them in Colombia, which makes them come to Peru and Bolivia. [end recording]

Minister Ormachea said that Army battalions will receive special training to fight drug trafficking so that military personnel will be ready for any situation which might jeopardize national security. He added that if illegal drug trafficking is allowed, national security will be affected.

Information Minister Denies Cabinet Crisis

PY3005035090 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 90

[Excerpt] Information Minister Manfredo Kempff denied today reports about a cabinet crisis caused by the alleged resignation of the planning and coordination minister.

[Words industinct] in the Government House [words indistinct] expressed concern over the press report. Kempff said that the president has repeatedly expressed his confidence in and satisfaction with the work done by all cabinet members.

[Begin Kempff recording] [Words indistinct] about the alleged resignation of the planning minister. This is not true. It is absolutely not true. Therefore, there is no reason for a cabinet crisis. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Senate Requests Resignation of Consul in Chile

PY3005145490 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] The Bolivian Senate has approved a resolution requesting the resignation of (Alberto Zelada), the Bolivian consul general to Chile, in view of his unfortunate statements on Bolivia's claim for a sea outlet.

During a secret Senate session, Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde explained the extent of (Zelada's) statements. After reviewing the issue, the Senate approved the drastic decision to request (Zelada's) resignation.

(Zelada) had said that Bolivia lacks a sea strategy. He added that in view of this several mistakes have been made and negotiations with the Chilean administration were not achieved. Because the majority of senators agreed that this statement was against national interests, the Senate approved the resolution. The Senate

informed the foreign minister of its decision so that he may comply with it as soon as possible.

During the secret Senate session, Foreign Minister Iturralde also discussed Bolivia's policy on the outlet to the sea issue.

Drug Seized, Processing Facilities Destroyed

PY2905192090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0206 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] La Paz, 28 May (EFE)—The authorities today reported that the special antidrug forces seized 1,090 kg of drugs in several operations last week.

The sources did not specify the type of drug, but it is believed that it is cocaine sulfate.

The Information Ministry has reported that the antidrug raids were performed in the districts of La Paz, Cochabamba, Oruro, Santa Cruz, and Tarija.

The Ministry added that 10 drug factories and 31 pits in which coca leaves were macerated with chemicals were destroyed. The Ministry reported that, since 18 May, 31 persons have been arrested on charges of involvement in drug processing, and 740 kg of cocaine sulfate—which were previously confiscated—were destroyed. It was also reported that 510 kg of lime, which is used for macerating the leaves, were destroyed and that the authorities "prevented the production of some 279 kg of cocaine paste."

Bolivia's annual production of coca leaves amounts to 155,000 tons, 80 percent of which—according to the authorities—are used for producing cocaine.

Chile

PRC President Yang Concludes Visit to Chile

PY3005183290 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] PRC President Yang Shangkun, who paid a 24-hour visit to the country, was seen off by President Aylwin at the airport at noon today.

Shortly after bidding farewell to President Yang, President Aylwin boarded the plane that took him to Punta Arenas. Before doing so, Aylwin refused to make any comments on the almost 50-minute-long meeting he held today at his residence on Amapolas Street with members of the Army Intelligence Directorate. Aylwin said that no official information on the meeting would be disclosed.

Rojas Says Government-Military Relations Normal

PY3005151890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas emphasized that relations between the government and the Armed Forces are absolutely normal.

Minister Rojas, who made this statement at his office, said that President Patricio Aylwin had voiced his desire to hold periodic meetings with the commanders in chief of the various national defense branches. Regarding the relationship with the Armed Forces, he said that they are very good.

[Begin Recording] [Rojas] I think that as a result of what I have just pointed out the administration-Armed Forces relations are very normal and peaceful. Moreover, progress is being made to create links of mutual confidence and understanding regarding the new roles that everyone must play for the functioning of this sector.

[Reporter] Do you think that the civilian-military relationship now is free of obstacles following the meeting yesterday by the President...?

[Rojas, interrupting] I think that the civilian-military relationship will become increasingly good, that confidence among the people will grow, and that coinciding points of view will prevail over the disagreements that may appear during the next four years. We have a long path to tread on but I am sure we will be successful. As I have already said, I hope that if I am still in my post that I will be able to say at the end of these four years that the Armed Forces once again are a factor of stability and democratic safety in Chile. [end recording]

Minister Rojas said that one of the good points raised by President Aylwin and Gen. Pinochet is the creation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He said that the Army has not objected to the functioning of the commission but has fears regarding the results of its practical functioning.

Rojas noted that Gen. Pinochet had even offered the Army's cooperation to supply information on important violations of human rights suffered by Army officers themselves.

Krauss Voices Approval Over Pinochet's Remarks

PY3005151290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 90

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss, in referring to General Augusto Pinochet's presence at La Moneda Palace, said that it was very satisfactory because Pinochet's expressions reflect that he agrees on the duties he has within the legal and institutional framework.

In referring to the same issue, Government Undersecretary Edgardo Riveros noted the climate of peace and respect that prevails in the country which was also reflected in the meeting Aylwin and Pinochet held. [passage omitted]

Moreover, Minister Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa, also referring to the Army communique on its desire to cooperate with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission within the Constitutional framework, said it was a positive decision. He added that he thought it was very good news. [passage omitted]

Carabineros Director Meets With Commission Head

PY3005191990 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 90

[Excerpts] Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange held a meeting with Raul Rettig, the president of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, to discuss how the Carabineros will cooperate with the commission.

Stange and Rettig agreed that the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere during which the Carabinero chief promised to cooperate in clarifying the cases of human rights violations in Chile.

Rettig said that this impasse with the Army had been overcome because General Augusto Pinochet had personally promised the cooperation of the Army. [passage omitted]

Rettig disclosed that he will meet 5 June with Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei for this same purpose. It has still not been established, however, when he will meet with Navy Commander Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch. [passage omitted]

Krauss Denies Government Behind Bomb Attacks

PY3005192490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 90

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss labeled as rash the statement by some leaders of the Bakers Federation that the government may be inciting some sectors to perpetrate terrorist attacks, such as the one that caused minor damages to their headquarters on Roberto Pretot Street. [passage omitted]

[Begin Krauss recording] It is a rash statement because it, by no means, reflects reality. No government member, especially the agriculture minister, has had or has the intention of solving political problems within his field with bombs. The leaders have requested an interview and we are now summoning them to come and discuss the problem. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Military Court Orders Closing of Letelier Case

PY3005165890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2035 GMT 29 May 90

[Excerpts] Santiago, 29 May (EFE)—Judicial sources today reported that Army General Guido Riquelme, Santiago's military judge advocate, has ordered the definitive closing of the trial involving the forgery of official passports and the 1976 homicide of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier.

The Supreme Court ordered the trial reopened on 24 April following the public appearance of Monica Luisa Lagos who said she was the mysterious Chilean secret police agent Liliana Walker Martinez. Lagos admitted to being involved in the murder of former Foreign Minister Letelier and his secretary Ronnie Moffit.

Lagos told the press that in 1976 she used a forged passport to travel with agent Armando Fernandez Larios to the United States to watch Orlando Letelier. But Letelier was murdered in Washington on 21 September 1976. The court dismissed Monica Luisa Lagos' testimony and released her without bail.

Military Court spokesman Samuel Correa said that the judge had admitted prosecutor Raul Rozas' argument stating that the incident under investigation was not a crime and that it cannot be proven that it ever occurred. Correa's argument is: "The passports that are said to have been forged do not exist" adding that "no one has been indicted." The Martial Court, and eventually the Supreme Court, must revise the first court decision.

Letelier family lawyers have said they consider the decision "arbitrary" and have announced they will appeal because the confession of a person directly involved in the murder was not considered. [passage omitted]

Eduardo Vio, the Foreign Ministry's legal affairs director, today announced that the internal investigation into the use of forged official passports by DINA [National Intelligence Directorate] agents during the military regime will end this week.

The investigation was ordered by Patricio Aylwin's government shortly after taking over in March this year. [passage omitted]

Colonel Fontaine's Murderer Allegedly Identified

PY3005191490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 90

[Excerpt] The Carabineros have placed at the disposal of Special Judge Sergio Valenzuela Patino two alleged members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front. One of them is believed to be the murderer of retired Carabinero Colonel Luis Fontaine Manriquez.

During a crowded news conference held at the 1st Carabineros station, Colonel (Rene Caceres Bazo), deputy director of the Carabineros Metropolitan zone, disclosed information on the issue.

The arrested individuals have been identified as Fernando Enrique Moreno Vega, 28, and Jorge Antonio Espinola Robles, 24. [passage omitted]

France's Mitterrand Invited To Visit Country

PY3005134890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has invited French President Francois Mitterrand and his colleague Ronald Dumas to visit Chile. The Chilean state secretary met in Paris with Dumas for 45 minutes during which he conveyed President Patricio Aylwin's invitation to visit Chile to the French chief of state.

Enrique Silva Cimma arrived in Paris today, flying in from Rome where he met with Italy's Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti. In that meeting, they analyzed the signing of a friendship and cooperation treaty to increase economic, political, and cultural relations between the two nations. Silva Cimma also met with Flaminio Ecoli, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, with whom he discussed the changes that have occurred in Eastern Europe and the repercussions of those changes in Latin America.

Finally, the Chilean state secretary met with representatives from the most important Italian public enterprises, an occasion where he pointed out our country's favorable economic conditions that make it attractive to foreign investment.

PCCh Leader on Democracy, Internal Issues

PY3005221390 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 90

[Interview with Gladys Marin, member of the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] Central Committee, by Ruben Andino; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Andino] Where is the PCCh heading?

[Marin] We are heading toward deep-rooted changes in this society. Aylwin's government, which we deeply respect, is a phase and we are willing to decidedly contribute to the strengthening of democracy.

We understand that the strengthening of democracy in Chile means, for example, revealing all the crimes that have been committed and administering justice to all those whose rights have been violated. If impunity wins in Chile, democracy will not make any progress and ours will continue to be a sick society.

[Andino] Several movements in which the PCCh and the Socialist Party [PS] played key roles have disappeared. How does the PCCh view its future relationship with the PS?

[Marin] The objective need for deep-rooted changes in Chile will prompt the reorganization of the leftist sector as an alternative. It might take some time, but it will have to reorganize itself.

The continent and Chile need a revolutionary change and we know that the leftist sector will have to bring about this change. The truth is that we continue to look upon the PS as our great fellow traveler, due to the strength and influence that it has over the people.

The separation is temporary, although we cannot deny that the PS is in government and we are not. This is a reality and this is why we have chosen different political alternatives at this moment. The PS has chosen a centrist position with the Christian Democratic Party tendency.

[Andino] You have said that the PCCh continues to proclaim itself as a Marxist-Leninist party despite the fact that that designation is being questioned even in the Soviet Union, which is its birthplace.

[Marin] We feel very happy because the international revolutionary movement and the communist parties are going through a stage of deep discussion. This situation forces us to create something of our own interest. We are facing a difficult situation. Socialism is ending in several parts and the communist parties are changing. Herewith we reaffirm our support to the idea of a revolutionary and Marxist-Leninist Party because it is the mainstay of our ideology. We do not think this is an old-fashioned ideology. This crisis, which affects society as a whole, is turning Marxist-Leninism into a transforming movement of society.

[Andino] Is the idea that "dirty clothes are laundered at home" part of the PCCh Marxist-Leninist position?

[Marin] I believe that the political and ideological discussion goes beyond the ranks of the party. We are drafting a program that will be discussed publicly at the end of the PCCh national conference that will be held late this month.

We want discuss this program with all social organizations and political parties so that they can help us to create our political and ideological bases for the long term. We also think that there are matters within the party that cannot be discussed publicly. Is there any party which does? [passage omitted]

[Andino] There are rumors about a virtual division within the Chilean Communist Youth [JJCC]. One group is reportedly headed by JJCC Secretary General Manuel Guzman and another group by Mauricio Redoles.

[Marin] I can sincerely tell you that there is a heated argument within the party. We have a lot of problems but there is no division. The situation that currently prevails in the domestic and international sectors leads all the parties to define their ranks. The forces have decided to reorganize. Some people have left the party but there is no division within the JJCC either. It is part of a campaign.

[Andino] But all campaigns take advantages of weaknesses to exploit them, and this is the case of the PCCh.

[Marin] I admit that there are problems and a great discussion, and that there are even people who are redefining their support of the PCCh. There is no division within the JJCC, but there are people who have different opinions and who can end up by making a different decision.

[Andino] Is the PCCh line still known as the "popular rebellion?"

[Marin] The line, which is a fusion of tactic and strategy, is revolutionary. It was known as the line of the popular

rebellion but we have begun a different stage and this situation will be analyzed at the PCCh national conference.

We have begun a completely different stage and consequently the line cannot be necessarily known as the policy of popular rebellion. We can recognize that this line has improved the policy and that there are elements of the popular rebellion that have definitively joined the line of the communists.

Party for Democracy Elects New Leadership

PY3005194490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 May 90

[Summary] The new leaders of the Party for Democracy are as follows: Erich Schnake has been elected president; Laura Soto, Ricardo Nunez, Maria Maluenda, Jorge Schaulsohn, Victor Manuel Rebolledo, and Osvaldo Puccio have been elected vice presidents; Sergio Bitar has been elected secretary general; and Guillermo Del Valle is the new finance secretary.

World Bank Grants $51.7 Million Project Loan

PY3005143290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 90

[Summary] The World Bank has agreed to grant Chile a $51.7 million loan to finance sanitary projects in Greater Valparaiso.

Colombia

Gaviria Meets With Barco, Talks to Reporters

PA3005145290 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] President-elect Cesar Gaviria Trujillo said today that he plans to reorganize security organizations to make them more efficient. In his first meeting with the media as president-elect, Gaviria also talked about his new home, the Narino Palace. Gaviria and Colombian President Virgilio Barco had met a long time ago. They went through difficult times together, and they shared power and dealt with the most diverse government matters. However, it is only today that they spoke as equals. The beloved disciple and the star minister of the Barco administration arrived at the Narino Palace. He has been the most popular figure with the reporters in the past few days. The two hour meeting between President Barco and his successor was the first of a number of meetings. Later the new president toured the halls of the palace that he had probably never dreamed would be his so soon. [Words indictinct] Cesar Gaviria answered the questions of a large number of reporters who are visiting Colombia. He discussed serious issues.

[Begin Gaviria recording] I am planning to reorganize the intelligence service and everything that is related to criminal organizations. When I formally take office, I will have to make decisions pertaining to criminal organizations. Of course, I will have to make decisions concerning all the institutions of the country. [end recording]

The president-elect announced that he will fully support the peace process with the EPL [People's Liberation Army]. He said he trusted that the terrorists that try to undermine the country will not carry out their plans. Gaviria's good spirits prompted him to talk of other matters.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Did you look carefully at the presidential chair?

[Gaviria] I had seen it already.

[Reporter] Was it suitable for you? Will you decorate your office?

[Gaviria] The chair suits me just fine. [end recording]

In the days ahead, Gaviria will have to make major decisions, and, although some names of reported new government members are already circulating, there will be time for everything, according to Gaviria.

Defense Minister Denies Ties With Paramilitary

PA2905201390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1813 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Bogota, 27 May (EFE)—Colombian Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo denied today that there are any ties between paramilitary groups and the Army, although he did not rule out that some Armed Forces members might be involved in illegal activities.

During a meeting with local and foreign journalists in Bogota, Gen. Botero said that the Army has no ties to the paramilitary. According to the defense minister, Army members will be immediately removed from their posts and turned over to the authorities if it is discovered that they have ties to the paramilitary.

The defense minister also said that the involvement of members of the Armed Forces in the paramilitary groups' activities is reprehensible and condemnable.

Gen. Botero referred to the arrest of six terrorists on 26 May in Bogota. The band of terrorists was led by an NCO of the Colombian Air Force (FAC) on active duty and a former policeman. The police arrested NCO Emilio Alberto Munoz Salazar and former policeman Julio Cesar Diaz on 26 May and accused them of planting the four car bombs which exploded in Bogota in the past two weeks, killing 17 persons and wounding 140 others. After it was confirmed that the NCO was the band leader, he was dismissed today from his post.

Gen. Botero said today that the authorities have started an investigation to find out if the NCO is the brother of a well-known gunman who is the bodyguard of drug leader Pablor Escobar Gaviria, kingpin of the Medellin Cartel.

The police reported that former policeman Julio Cesar Diaz was removed from his post in March due to bad conduct; however, he did not return his official membership card.

The arrest of the terrorists occurred hours after a car bomb exploded in Bogota on Friday [25 May] evening at Las Villas in northern Bogota, wounding 10 persons and damaging several houses. Former policeman Julio Cesar Diaz said he had received 3 million pesos (about $23,000) for each car bomb.

The six alleged terrorists led by the FAC NCO and the former policeman had more than one ton of ammonia dynamite in their possession at the time of their arrest.

Gen. Botero said today that the prisoners are apparently responsible for the simultaneous explosion of two car bombs, which killed 17 persons and wounded 120 at two shopping centers in Bogota on 12 May.

Another car bomb exploded one week later in the Puente Largo neighborhood in northern Bogota; 13 persons were wounded.

Gen. Botero said that the authorities are also analyzing documents that were found on 26 May when a residence in Bogota was searched. The documents apparently belonged to the M-19 [19 April Movement] or a still unspecified subversive movement.

Gen. Botero admitted that the discovery of the documents, which included the plans for Narino House (presidency), is worrisome but he said that the security organizations are studying them.

UP Leader Says International Solidarity Needed

PA3105014990 Paris AFP in Spanish 0254 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Quito, 25 May (AFP)—Colombia needs international solidarity to emerge from its social crisis, which the government seems unable to solve, the president of the Patriotic Unity [UP], Oscar Duenas, said in Quito on 25 May.

According to Duenas, to insist that narcotics trafficking is the root of the Colombian crisis does not allow one to know how deep the crisis really is.

"One does not see the other facets: A restrictive constitution, a destructive democracy, an ideological intolerance, a political violence, and the government's total inability to solve the social crisis," he pointed out.

In an extensive exclusive interview published by the Quito newspaper HOY, the leader said he came to Ecuador to announce the peaceful position of the UP, the political organization of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) that abandoned its arms.

The UP stand consists "of a dialogue between the rebel forces and the government, but a dialogue verified by international organizations, inasmuch as a dialogue cannot be positive unless there is verification."

Duenas also said that if the Colombian conflict worsens, "It will have repercussions one way or another on Ecuadoran politics and the internal situation. If the conflict worsens in Colombia, it becomes a hemispheric conflict," he insisted.

Duenas said that he met with Ecuadoran Government Minister Andres Vallejo, whom he found to be "very receptive to the notion of a political solution through dialogue in Colombia."

He rejected the idea that the FARC is promoting violence.

"The killings are being carried out by the paramilitary groups who are receiving financial support from narcotics trafficking and ideological support from the reactionaries."

He added: "There are various sectors involved—the large land holders, some financial capitalists, and the narcotics traffickers. Undoubtedly, they must have the complicity of some sectors of the Armed Forces, because they operate so freely."

Although the leader admitted that "there are some sectors of the Armed Forces who are seeking peace," he noted that "the solution would be to purge the Armed Forces in order to assure peace in Colombia."

When asked if this would lessen the risk of a military coup, Duenas stated that the "rightist political class has started the rumors of a possible coup d'etat. This threat is being used as a pretext to force people to abandon the idea that they want a more powerful state of law."

FARC Kills 12, Wounds 15 in Huila Attacks

PA2805184290 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1718 GMT 28 May 90

[Report by Jose Ignacio Valencia]

[Text] So far, the toll of incursions by two columns of the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, in Huila Department is two children, three civilians, and seven members of the National Police killed, with 15 policemen, professors, and municipal registry witnesses wounded.

Colonel Jaime Pena Angarica, commander of the Huila Department Police, has announced that intensive operations are under way in search of the guerrillas who carried out the incursions that resulted in the large number of dead and wounded. Pena Angarica said that in the incursion on the road from Neiva to Vega Larga, some two km from San Antonio de Anaconia, guerrillas of the 17th FARC Front activated dynamite charges against a truck carrying the policemen, two professors, and the civilians.

Seven policemen and two professors were wounded in this attack. They were identified as Pablo Roballo, Gerardo Molina, Mario Fernando Herrera, Edgar Herrera, Saul Lizaraso Penuela, Jose Silva Tobar and Guillermo Hurtado, and professors Alirio Llanos and Santos Amilcar Olaya.

Coverage of ELN, EPL Guerrilla Activity

PA3105042890

[Editorial report] Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 1730 GMT on 18 May reported that eight guerrillas of the Popular Liberation Army (EPL), and the Army of National Liberation (ELN), were killed in clashes with the Colombian Army in Cesar and Cordoba Departments. The station did not provide the dates of the clashes.

Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 20 May reported that six guerrillas were killed earlier in the day in clashes with troops of the 3d Brigade in a rural area of Riofrio municipality, Valle del Cauca Department. It added that "the dead subversives were ELN members." The station also reported that one subversive was killed in clashes between troops of the 4th Brigade and an EPL group in the jurisdiction of Andes municipality, 126 km from Medellin.

Madrid EFE in Spanish at 2221 GMT on 21 May reported that an ELN column on 20 May ambushed a military patrol guarding the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline near Tibu, in northeastern Colombia, killing two soldiers. It indicated that the guerrillas did not sustain any casualties.

Peru

Vargas Llosa, Fujimori To Debate on Six Issues

PY3005125690 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 May 90 p 3

[Text] Six issues will be discussed in a scheduled public debate between Democratic Front [Fredemo] presidential candidate Mario Vargas Llosa and Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori. National pacification, the economic program, and the role of the state will be among the six issues.

The details of the way in which the 3 June debate—scheduled for 1900 in the Civic Center amphitheater—will be conducted were disclosed by Luis Bustamante Belaunde, the Fredemo platform national coordinator, despite the reluctance and demarches of the Change 90 negotiating commission.

Speaking to the press, Bustamante Belaunde reported that the debate will last two and a half hours, divided into three blocks, and will be broadcast live over a nationwide radio and television network.

According to a previously established order, the issues that will be discussed during the debate are: national pacification, including the problem of terrorism and drug trafficking; the economic program and agricultural development; education; labor; the illegal economy; and the role of the state.

The debate has been divided into three parts. The first part will be very brief. The moderator, who will be chosen by the sponsors of the debate, will make a general introduction of the debate and then will assign one minute for each candidate to speak.

Afterward, establishing turns by lot, each candidate will explain each issue for six minutes, after which the other candidate will be given equal time to do the same.

After the two explanations, each candidate will be given three minutes to reply. This will be followed by a final two minute rejoinder, beginning with the candidate who started first.

This system will be repeated for each of the six issues chosen and then the final block will follow. Here, each candidate will have five minutes to recapitulate his explanation or add new ideas to the ones he has already expressed.

Bustamante explained that during their explanations the participants in the supplementary electoral round will neither be applauded nor distracted by the people present, who will refrain from voicing their opinions.

Bustamante said: "They (the people present) will be representatives of national and foreign media, delegates of some institutions proposed by the sponsors and accepted by both participants, as well as an equal number of Fredemo and Change 90 guests."

Fujimori Confirms Participation

PY3005135490 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori has confirmed that on Sunday, 3 June, he will hold a debate with Mario Vargas Llosa at the civic center. He thus dispelled concerns about his possible absence from this event. Engineer Fujimori insisted that Vargas Llosa should agree to engage in more debates out of respect for Peruvian voters.

[Begin recording] [Fujimori, in progress] ...of other invitations.

[Unidentified reporter] Will you head the church sponsored religious procession of the Lord of Miracles and the Virgin Mary on 31 May to disprove rumors that this religious demonstration is being held against Change 90?

[Fujimori] No, no, not at all....

[Reporter, interrupting] Will you not participate in the procession?

[Fujimori] I suppose that it will be headed by religious authorities.

[Reporter] Will you not participate in that expression of faith of the Christian people?

[Fujimori] I participate....

[Reporter, interrupting] Will you participate in the procession?

[Fujimori] I am a Catholic. This procession is not on my agenda, but I am 100 percent Catholic. All the members of my family, including my mother and my four sons—who study at a Catholic school—are Catholic. Consequently, I would like to definitively deny any report that I am linked with the evangelical churches or that I am an atheist or even an agnostic. I am a Catholic and I have said on many occasions that in an eventual Change 90 government, the Catholic religion will remain the official religion in Peru.

[Reporter] Have you ruled out the possibility of participating in this religious procession?

[Fujimori] No, I have not.

[Reporter] Why do you think Vargas Llosa has refused to engage in more than one debate?

[Fujimori] Well, he [smiles]...he would like the technicians to hold the debate. The people feel, however, that he writes novels and that, consequently, he does not understand the technical aspects of Peruvian problems, for example in the areas of economics, agriculture, or industrialization. I believe that a president must have a perfect understanding of those subjects and must prove that he understands them.

[Reporter] Vargas Llosa is behaving quite like Lima Mayor Ricardo Belmon, is he not?

[Fujimori] Well, they are partners, right?

[Reporter] Engineer, why did Change 90 delegates not attend a meeting with Fredemo [Democratic front] delegates yesterday, as is stated by a Fredemo communique?

[Fujimori] Look, we received no invitation, but we are willing to attend....

[Reporter, interrupting] Did not delegates have to meet yesterday to complete the...?

[Fujimori] No, we did not attend...Aha! That means that no final accord had yet been reached! We are, however, willing to comply with all formal requirements.

[Reporter] Will there be a debate on 3 June?

[Fujimori] Of course, this has already been agreed upon. There will be a debate on 3 June and I hope that candidate Mario Vargas will not refuse to engage in other debates. That is what I would like to say. In this regard, please let me say that the situation has been totally clarified. I will attend the debate on 3 June.

[Reporter] You have lost credibility because you have changed your mind back and forth, saying that you will participate and then, that you will not participate....

[Fujimori] But I have always said that I will participate and that I will also participate in the other debates. [end recording]

Fujimori Would Not Privatize State Companies

PY3005145890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2112 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Lima, 29 May (EFE) — Alberto Fujimori, the presidential candidate for the Change 90 party in the second round of the elections, today in Lima stated that if he is elected he will make a frontal attack on unemployment and he will try to increase the purchasing power of Peruvians.

In remarks to Radioprogramas del Peru (RPP), Fujimori indicated that he is against an "economic shock" [preceding word in English] program such as the one that has been proposed by Mario Vargas Llosa, the center-right candidate of the Democratic Front (Fredemo), because, he said, "it means a decrease in purchasing power and massive firings."

In the second round of the presidential elections—to be held on 10 June—Fujimori will face novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, and the winner will be inaugurated as president on 28 July for a period of five years, replacing current President Alan Garcia.

Fujimori, of Japanese descent, stated that only 30 percent of the economically active population is adequately employed, and the wages of the workers "are very, very low."

The candidate of Change 90, which groups the independents, stated that "because of low salaries and a high unemployment rate, we propose to improve those two conditions, and at the same time we will balance relative prices; this means that the prices (of foodstuffs) will be put in order."

Fujimori stressed that "our policy is first to achieve stability, put prices in order, and if possible, at the same time seek growth, not recession because we already have a very serious degree of recession."

The Change 90 candidate, with the polls placing him as the favorite to win the elections, rejected the possibility of placing public enterprises in private hands, which, according to official sources, jointly lose at least $2.5 billion per year.

Fujimori indicated that "our position is that of maintaining public enterprises, but we are going to moralize, reorganize, and restructure them to make them profitable, if possible. We are not going to auction them off."

He maintained that this policy is contrary to the one that is being preached by Vargas Llosa, who, in his government plan, is considering the privatization of state enterprises to prevent the Treasury from continuously subsidizing them to the detriment of public works that could be carried out with the millions of dollars that these enterprises presumably lose.

The nisei candidate (first generation of children of Japanese immigrants), 51, has confirmed that he will debate with Vargas Llosa on 3 June in a public place, and he also urged the writer to accept "a confrontation of ideas on 2 June in RPP's political program called 'Saturday's Focus.'"

Both Fujimori, an agronomist who is playing at politics for the first time, and Vargas Llosa have denied that they are "millionaires," and Fujimori has also denied the accusation that he has evaded taxes "and I will prove this to the national prosecutor's office." The accusation was made by independent Deputy Fernando Olivera.

He then asked Vargas Llosa to say how he financed his first round campaign, which was estimated at $12.3 million against the $190,000 that he said he spent.

Fujimori stated that "the people and the Senate request that Vargas Llosa inform the country about where he got the funds to finance the first round campaign and what commitments he has with those who donated the money, because that kind of donation is not done without strings attached."

Comments on Terrorism, Armed Forces

PY3105034290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 May 90

[Message to the people by Alberto Fujimori, presidential candidate for the Change 90 movement; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Fellow countrymen, Change 90 believes that the bases for national understanding and consensus are currently in jeopardy, not only from the pressure of the economic crisis and terrorist subversion but also from the pressure of the political polarization into which the country is being led by the dirty war strategy that is being systematically implemented by the Fredemo [Democratic Front]. This is directly affecting the grassroots organizations and the main institutions [instituciones tutelares] of the Republic.

This is why Change 90 believes that a government of consensus, of national understanding, is necessary to face the most important national problems. Such a government must listen to and accept the proposals of the people. It cannot be based on pacts among minority groups that want their own interests to take precedence over the national interest, which comes before all else.

The political parties, as mechanisms of political representation, have failed, and their role in national political life has decreased. This undeniable lesson, which we and the rest of the people learned in the last elections, must lead us to evaluate ourselves and to search for our identities rather than to destroy the most solid bases of the Peruvian state of law and democracy.

Change 90 and I understand that the bases of the state of right and democracy in Peru are the social, economic, and political organizations, the Catholic Church, and the Armed Forces. By invoking the protection of God—as the constituents have done in the preamble of our Constitution—and as a believer and a man who professes the Catholic faith, I am calling on the people to respect the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of conscience and religion, public professions of faith, and mainly the religious unity of our people. All of us believers must observe our Catholic and Christian beliefs, which are the moral bases of the nation on which understanding, consensus, disinterest, humility, and solidarity are maintained.

The other pillar of national consensus as a key institution is the Armed Forces, which for 10 years have been experiencing a war situation. This war has regrettably cost the country more than 18,000 human lives and an incalculable amount of property destruction, worsening the national economic crisis. We are all aware that this war will be long and difficult; the subversive process we are living through will not be solved in the short term because the terrorist strategy is a long-term one, based on a plan that goes beyond the year 2000.

This means the state of law must also design a strategy to stop and defeat subversion as quickly as possible. Otherwise it will be a be long and painful struggle. We must coordinate an efficient formula to face the subversion, to reestablish peace in our country, and to impose order and social justice for the consolidation of democracy within a constitutional framework, with respect for laws and human rights—the necessary conditions for national consensus as proposed by Change 90.

This means that funds must be allocated intelligently to prevent an unnecessary waste of materiel for the operational forces and logistical support organizations of the Armed Forces, so they may comply with their constitutional mission of guaranteeing Peruvian independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity on the internal and external fronts. The allocation of funds must be appropriate so that we can always count on a ready, prepared military that is powerful enough to comply with its constitutional mission of contributing to our national development and the well-being of the people.

In view of these circumstances, Change 90 believes that we must have well-balanced and well-equipped Armed Forces. This means that an update of our war materiel is a priority, and it must be renewed in keeping with our internal and external defense demands. This will not be attained without a clear and definite policy for the well-being of military personnel. Change 90 will fully meet the salary and housing needs of the military without taking away from other measures aimed at

raising the morale and combat capacity of military and police personnel at every level and in every structure.

The situation of the police force is a subject that deeply concerns us because their duties are directly connected to the serious problems of public order that our country is currently facing. While we recognize their dedicated service to society, we also recognize their serious limitations in the field of human, logistic, economic, and technical resources.

This is why—if we win the election—we will decidedly support each of the police institutions in their specific functions and give them the means and equipment they need. We want their members to make permanent progress and we want to ensure the well-being of their officers and troops, especially the latter, by giving them a decent salary that will allow them to honorably meet their basic needs of food, clothing, housing, culture, etc. We want to create the minimum objective and subjective conditions necessary to carry out a deep and permanent moralization process within a framework of justice and rationality.

In this manner we hope to turn our police forces into worthy, modern, and highly specialized organizations, respectful of the law and human rights in keeping with the demands of these violent times. They must become worthy of the respect of the people, their only reason for being.

For all these reasons I am addressing you, stressing that it is our duty to respect, safeguard, and preserve the integrity of our social and productive organizations, especially the church, the police, and the Armed Forces, which, as I said at the beginning, are the bases of a government of national consensus and understanding, for which the Peruvian people will vote 10 June. Thank you.

Free Television Ads for Fujimori, Vargas Llosa

PY3105001090

[Editorial Report] Lima Television Peruana in Spanish at 0000 on 30 May carries free television advertising for the run-off presidential elections to be held on 10 June 1990.

The first 14 minutes consist of an advertisement for Change 90. The first three-minute segment shows Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori campaigning in several cities, meeting with people, and holding children. In the second segment Fujimori delivers a message to the nation.

In this message Fujimori refers to a "dirty war" against him, saying that "traditional politicians" are resorting to "personal attacks, lies, and slander" to confuse the people and to try to prevent his victory. Fujimori regrets the involvement of the media in the campaign but says that the people can "recognize a wolf in sheep's clothing." Fujimori says that he is 100 percent Peruvian and that the opposition's use of religion and leaflets to create a confrontation between the Evangelical and Catholic churches "is shameful."

Fujimori asks for an end to the dirty campaign mounted by "his political adversaries." He says he and his family are Catholics and that the Catholic faith will continue to be Peru's official religion if he wins.

Fujimori condemns "traditional" politicians and says that the people want at least three debates, adding that the Democratic Front [Fredemo] only wants to put on "a show." Fujimori says he does not understand the personal attacks against him when he only wants to establish "peace and tranquillity for the fatherland, to eliminate corruption and immorality," and to work for the well-being of all Peruvians.

Fujimori says that "the people cannot continue to pay for politicians' mistakes," that he only wants to serve the country, and that he is part of the people. Fujimori concludes by saying that he will not join in the dirty campaign because the people are on the same side as Change 90.

The second part of the free advertising shows presidential candidate Mario Vargas Llosa of the Fredemo sitting with his advisers seated behind him. Vargas Llosa delivers a speech and then calls on two advisers to explain aspects of his government program. Raul Salazar explains the economic program and Luis Bustamante explains the Fredemo's stance on the privatization of state enterprises. The 14-minute free advertisement ends with a brief message by Vargas Llosa.

Car Bomb Explodes in Front of PRC Embassy

PA3105050290 Paris AFP in Spanish 0445 GMT 31 May 90

[Text] Lima, 30 May (AFP)—A car loaded with explosives exploded tonight in front of the PRC embassy causing major damage, but no one was injured, the Peruvian police reported.

The explosion, which alarmed neighbors in the residential neighborhood of San Isidro, where most foreign embassies are located, damaged the facades of residences and windows in nearby buildings, and at least two vehicles parked in the vicinity.

A police spokesman recalled that the Chinese Embassy has been the target of different dynamite attacks by Shining Path rebels over the past few years.

According to university officials, another terrorist group entered the National Engineering University early this morning and destroyed the Peruvian-Japanese Seismic Investigation and Disaster Mitigation Center.

It was reported that the attack left $500,000 in losses and destroyed valuable and irreplaceable information that had been compiled during several years of research.

Alleged SL Terrorists Kill 2 Fredemo Members

PY3005165290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0112 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Lima, 29 May (EFE) — Police have reported that a leader and a former governor, members of the parties that make up the center-right coalition Democratic Front (Fredemo), were murdered today by alleged members of the Shining Path [SL] terrorist group.

Prospero Delso Huaman, secretary general of the conservative Popular Christian Party (PPC) of Cerro de Pasco and president of the local Fredemo chapter, was shot twice in the head by two persons when he was entering his home in Cerro del Pasco, capital of Pasco Department, located in Peru's central Andean area.

The other victim, Felix Vega, former governor of Piura, 1,050 km north of Lima, and a militant of the center-right Popular Action Party (AP), was shot in Piura by two unknown persons when he was going to his job in the Santa Rosa neighborhood.

Police sources from these towns indicated that the attackers acted in a way similar to the SL death squads.

The PPC, AP, and the Freedom Movement, founded by Peruvian writer Mario Vargas Llosa, are members of the Fredemo, which has the novelist as its presidential candidate.

Vargas Llosa and Alberto Fujimori, the leader of the independent Change 90 movement, will dispute Peru's presidency in the second round of elections on 10 June after obtaining the most votes in the 8 April first round of elections.

Venezuela

Perez To Travel to Malaysia, Italy, Spain

PA3005042790 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0022 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] Interior Minister Alejandro Izaguirre will be sworn in as acting president at the Miraflores Palace because President Carlos Andres Perez will travel to Malaysia tomorrow to attend a meeting of the Group of 15.

President Carlos Andres Perez will be in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 1, 2, and 3 June to participate in meetings with other presidents and prime ministers of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. This important meeting will not only serve to strengthen our foreign policy and the South-South relations, but also important cooperation agreements will be signed.

[Begin Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo recording] We must not forget that Venezuela is an oil power. Venezuela owns enterprises in the United States and Europe and its presence is needed more and more in the exchange of technology. We can offer the technology that we have developed in the oil fields, like we are currently doing with Iran and Iraq. Malaysia has requested it as well. We must not forget that Venezuela is also a top aluminum producer. [end recording]

Upon leaving Malaysia, President Perez will be in Italy on 4 and 5 June and Spain on 6 and 7 June, where important negotiations will be held on joint-investment agreements. According to Figueredo, the agreements are intended to seek the development of technology in important industrial sectors of Venezuela.

Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo also announced that President Carlos Andres Perez is scheduled to return on 8 June.

Minister Carmona Denies Talk of Coup 'Climate'

PA2405045190 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Jesus Ramon Carmona, minister of the Secretariat of the Presidency, has refuted the statements by the leader of Movement Toward Socialism, Jose Vicente Rangel, according to whom the current climate is favorable for a coup d'etat in our country. Carmona firmly asserted that there is complete normalcy in Venezuela at this time.

[Begin Carmona recording] Rangel is wrong. Our country is enjoying absolute democratic stability. Of course, there are unsettling manifestations in our country's life. The latest developments, to which Rangel is probably referring, particularly the crises in some political parties, have really been a source of deep concern in the nation, but the democratic system should, in no way, feel threatened by them. [end recording]

Armed Forces Comment on Military Exercises

PA2705190790 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] The four military organizations comprising our country's Armed Forces have begun joint exercises to acquire the necessary theory and practice needed to confront any type of public disorder in Venezuela. General Juan Bastardo Velasquez, commander of the joint chiefs of staff, has said that in the past the Army only held excercises to confront foreign contingencies. Now, however, the Army is also learning how to control any type of civilian uprising, if the police forces and the National Guard cannot control the situation. In addition to training, the military officers' objective is to highlight the level of modernization and training that the Armed Forces have achieved during peace times.

The military exercise will simulate public order altercations. The first simulated exercise is based on a staged transportation strike and includes surveillance of a fuel distribution center, food and shelter distribution, and other activities.

[Begin Bastardo recording] This exercise will allow us to see how our soldiers approach surveillance work and their effectiveness in reestablishing public order. During these exercises we are going to watch and evaluate our forces. Our experience during the events of 27 February indicates that we should hold these exercises and review them often. [end recording]

It must be stressed that there is nothing to worry about with these exercises. The exercises are based on simulated events and will be held yearly from now on.

Guyana

Hoyte Ends Consultations on National Dialogue

FL2605175390 Bridgetown CANA in English 1704 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 26 May (CANA)—President Desmond Hoyte has ended six months of consultations on the organisation of a national dialogue on important national issues, an official statement said. The consultations, which became a source of controversy here, were held by the president, who met with representatives of nearly 50 organisations in response to a resolution unanimously adopted last December by the national assembly.

The opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA), whose Member of Parliament Eusi Kwayana had moved the motion in the National Assembly calling for the national dialogue, had complained that the preparatory work was taking too long and questioned the president's sincerity.

The statement from the office of the president said Hoyte had met with several organisations "representing a cross-section of society and its interests." It added that many requests had been received from various organisations to participate in the consultations but all of them could not be entertained. The last organisation with whose representatives Hoyte consulted was the Guyana Police Association.

The statement said that in the exchange of views on security and development, the delegation led by Association Chairman Inspector Cecil Semple emphasised the importance of maintaining internal security to secure national development and progress and to that end, the police would need to modernise its techniques and equipment. "It was also the view of the delegation that internal security should be a matter of public awareness and, as expressed in the constitution, it was the duty of the state, the society and every citizen to combat and prevent crime and other violations of the law and to protect public property," the statement said.

Government Publishes Local Elections Bill

FL2605180590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1734 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 26 May (CANA)—The Guyana Government, in a move expected to win support from opposition parties, has published a bill which seeks to provide for a commission to supervise municipal elections here. The Local Authorities (Elections) (Amendment) Bill 1990 is scheduled to have its first reading in the National Assembly Monday [28 May].

Last year opposition parties boycotted municipal elections arguing, among other things, against the supervision of elections by a government minister rather than an independent elections commission. The bill would amend the provisions of the Local Authorities (Elections) Act in respect of the country's municipalities, which were this week increased from five to six with the naming of Anna Regina—the Three Friends/Walton Hall District on the Essequibo coast—as a new town.

For many years Anna Regina, one of 18 villages within that district, has been the administrative centre of Region Two, the Pomeroon-Supenaam Region (population about 145,000), which is one of the country's ten administrative regions run by regional democratic councils. The new town will have a town council, comprising a mayor, a deputy mayor and 13 councillors. An official statement said elections for the council would "be held in due course."

Anna Regina is located in the heart of one of the country's major rice-growing areas and boasts two of the largest rice mills, one state-owned and the other in private hands. Hampton Court, venue in recent years of several Shell Shield and Red Stripe cricket matches, falls within the new town, which has the Atlantic Ocean on the east as one [of] its boundaries. Guyana's five other towns are Georgetown (the capital city), New Amsterdam, Rose Hall, Corriverton and Linden.

Venezuelan Envoy 'Lauds' Spirit of 'Friendship'

FL2305013490 Bridgetown CANA in English 0100 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 23 May (CANA)—Enrique Peinado Barrios on Tuesday [22 May] presented his letters of credence as Venezuela's ambassador to Guyana for the third time and lauded the "friendship and understanding" which he said prevails between the two countries. In presenting his credentials, to Vice President Viola Burnham at the presidential secretariat, Barrios noted that it was the third occasion on which he was doing so in Guyana. He said he believed and had worked for friendship and understanding between the two countries and he was pleased to see this friendship and understanding now prevailing over "the emotional behaviour which characterised, sometime in the past, the relations between Guyana and Venezuela."

Vice President Burnham in referring to the fact that Mr. Barrios was being accredited as Venezuela's representative here for a third time, praised him for the role he played in the past when she said, he "worked assiduously and with distinction for the cultivation of good relations" between the two countries.

The two neighbours on the northern coast of the South American mainland have emerged in recent years from a period of intense hostility stemming from a territorial claim to five-eighths of Guyana based on Venezuela's contention that an 1899 arbitral award was null and void. Since 1986, there have been marked improvements in relations between the two countries and the United Nations secretary-general last year appointed University of the West Indies Vice Chancellor Alister McIntyre to perform the role of good officer as the two sides seek a peaceful solution.

"I have always maintained that dialogue and understanding are our basic objectives for the building of that climate of confidence that will make it possible to find a solution to our inherent problems," Barrios said Tuesday.

Suriname

Brunswijk Orders Power Plant To Close Down

FL2805121890 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Rebel leader Ronnie Brunswijk has ordered the Afobaka power plant to close down. That plant supplies the power to the capital Paramaribo and the key bauxite industry which is Suriname's main money-maker. The order follows clashes between Brunswijk's Jungle Commando and a splinter group in the Brokopondo region. The head of the Armed Forces, Desi Bouterse, says government troops are not involved in this fighting.

Bouterse Meets Leaders of New Guerrilla Faction

FL2905130990 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] In the Surinamese capital, Paramaribo, Army Commander Desi Bouterse has held talks with the leaders of a new guerrilla group, the so-called (Anguilla). The movement is a splinter group of Ronnie Brunswijk's Jungle Command and says it defends the interest of the Saramacca Bush Negroes.

On Monday [28 May], the (Anguilla) rebels clashed with the Jungle Command in the Brokopondo region. Ronnie Brunswijk had ordered the temporary closure of the Afobaka power station there, which supplies the capital with electricity.

At their meeting with Desi Bouterse, the (Anguilla) leaders demanded the power station be protected and that the Jungle Command withdraw from Saramacca territory.

Confusion Over Origin of Faction

FL3005163290 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 May 90

[Text] The new Surinamese guerrilla group (Anguilla), an organization of Saramacca Bush Negros, has threatened to attack the bauxite town of Moengo unless the Jungle Command withdraws from the surrounding Brokopondo region. The residents of Moengo were warned to leave the town by Wednesday [30 May] night local time.

There is confusion about the origin of the new (Anguilla) organization. Some reports say that it is a group that has broken away from Ronnie Brunswijk Jungle Command. Others say that it is an organization that has the backing of Army Commander Desi Bouterse. A Jungle Command post in [name indistinct] 30 km from Moengo was attacked on Tuesday [29 May]. According to Ronnie Brunswijk, the attackers were Army soldiers but the Army leadership has denied it.